

THE TIMES

The uncrowned Prime Minister:
Saturday Review, page 7

National strike threat in Poland after clashes

Mr Lech Walesa, leader of the independent trade union movement, Solidarity, has spoken out against a national strike threatened by the union; but has not called it off. Tensions continued to run high throughout Poland and there were reports of isolated strikes after the first violent clash between Solidarity members and police.

Situation precarious, Mr Walesa says

Bydgoszcz, March 20.—Mr Lech Walesa, leader of the free trade union movement, Solidarity, tonight gave warning that a general strike could spark off a civil war after the first violent clash between Solidarity members and police.

He was speaking at a mass rally after more than 500,000 workers struck for two hours in his union had declared a national strike alert.

The actions were in protest against a police raid here last night in which 27 Solidarity members were allegedly killed, wounded and beaten. Three of the victims were taken to hospital and one, a farmer, aged 72, was flown to Warsaw for emergency treatment.

Photographs of the injured men lying on the blood-spattered ground were circulated today in the city where factory sirens signalled the start of the 8-hour stoppage.

Mr Walesa said word had been sent to all the members of Solidarity telling them to spare for "hard and difficult days". But he offered an ultimatum to the Government of Wojciech Jaruzelski.

Without calling off the national strike alert, Mr Walesa said it was clear that he was seeking a response from the Government to avert it.

"You must realize that the nation is very precarious both internally and externally. You must realize that a general strike would be the end of our struggle," Mr Walesa told a gathering at the railway repair works here.

"One side has an army. We've got one," he declared. "We shall struggle resolutely; we do not want a general strike."

Mr Walesa, who went to Bydgoszcz overnight after concluding a trip to Tbilisi, made it equally clear that he expected the authorities to punish those responsible for the uniformed police attack on Solidarity members in the provincial assembly.

"Nobody has the right to act as they please. These bandits must relinquish their posts," he declared.

He said General Jaruzelski's statement was Poland's last chance to avoid catastrophe, and added that his union had asked to trust the new Administration.

Despite an earlier ruling that talks with the Government would be suspended, Mr Walesa said some contacts had been re-established.

But he ended defiantly, rejecting the idea that Solidarity would seek a meeting with the Government. "The one who



Heathrow reunion: The father of seven Vietnamese "boat children" being greeted with delight after their separation in 1978. Mr Kep Nguyen and his wife, Qui Nguyen, who had just flown in from Ho Chi Minh City, had not seen their children since the children fled Vietnam on board a boat, which had cast off when the captain sighted a coastguard cutter before the parents could get on as well. The children feared their parents would not be allowed to leave Vietnam until a telegram two weeks ago signalled their release under the "orderly departure scheme".

Edwardses plea after £535m BL loss

By Edward Townsend
BL, Britain's state-owned motor group, made an overall loss last year of £535.5m, after a deficit of £144.5m in 1979.

Its pretax loss for 1980 was more than three times the 1979 loss, £387.5m compared to £122.2m, and the figure was further inflated by the inclusion of £139m redundancy payments and factory restructuring.

Announcing the company's worst set of financial results, Sir Michael Edwards, the chairman, said that BL would be "in the vanguard" of an export-led revival if the Government would cut interest rates and allow the value of the pound to decline.

The company now had the prospect of profitable export of the best-selling Metro to a sales value of £200m a year, at the right currency relationship.

"I appeal to the Government to provide British industry with the one instrument without which few of us will be able to build profitable export sales, a reasonably priced pound," he said.

Since the end of 1977, BL's workforce has been cut by about 56,000 and the cost of redundancy payments and other extraordinary items has boosted total losses to £770m in the four years up to 1980.

Preliminary results for 1980 show that sales were down to £2,877m (£2,990m in 1979) of which direct exports from the United Kingdom accounted for £880m (£865m).

Sir Michael, who earlier this year persuaded the Government to inject another £90m into the company over the next two years, said that much of BL's

The double life of Sir Peter Hayman

By Stewart Tendler
The double life of Sir Peter Hayman, as "Peter Henderson", named this week in connection with the Paedophile Information Exchange, can be traced to sometime between October, 1974, and October, 1975: he retired as High Commissioner for Canada in September, 1974.

The electoral roll for Kensington and Chelsea shows that "Peter Henderson", the name used by Sir Peter, moved into a house divided into flats sometime between October, 1974, and October, 1975.

"Peter Henderson" appears on the register compiled in October, 1975, and continued to appear on another two registers. He left the flat sometime between October, 1977, and October, 1978. It was as "Peter Henderson" that Sir Peter received material through the information exchange.

Investigations show that Sir Peter Hayman was excluded as a witness in a child pornography case although statements were produced from two other men who had received material from him.

The two statements were among those from 13 men submitted to defence lawyers before the commitment of Mr Thomas O'Carroll and others in 1980. One of the men was called at Westminster Magistrates' Court and testified 111 pages of material that flowed between him and "Peter Henderson", Sir Peter's pseudonym.

The court was also given a list of 11 men who had been dealt with in various ways by the police or who were awaiting action. The men came to police notice as a result of raids on 18 addresses.

The list noted that Sir Peter, as "Peter Henderson", had been cautioned. Two other men were awaiting court action or decisions but the other eight were among the 13 who made statements.

Yesterday the Director of Public Prosecution's office said that there had never been any intention to call Sir Peter. He had made a statement under caution to the police but had never made a witness statement.

The DPP spokesman said: "The people we decided to call were all because they were advertisers." Only six people were called and that was all counsel thought necessary.

Sir William Nash, Mr O'Carroll's solicitor, said yesterday that there was not time to call all the witnesses. There had only been a few days for the commitment and if it had been adjourned the next possible date was quite some time hence.

The statement, listing the number of people dealt with, was produced by Police Sergeant Bryan Collins. It said:

Continued on page 2, col 1

Mr Rowland buys into US company to beat off 'Observer' ban

By Dan van der Var
In an unprecedented and swift move and counter-move over the future of The Observer yesterday, the Government rejected Lord's bid for the paper, only to learn soon afterwards that Lord's chief executive, Mr Rowland, was to buy a personal 50 per cent stake in the company which owns it.

Yesterday morning Mr John Biffen, Secretary of State for Trade, rejected Lord's application for his consent to a 100 per cent takeover, lodged with him on Monday. He asked that Mr Rowland be told before a public statement was made.

But Mr Rowland's own company, unexpectedly announced, was released a few minutes before Mr Biffen's. As a Department of Trade source ruefully admitted last night: "Something went wrong with the timing."

Mr Kenneth Harris, associate editor of The Observer, emerged last night as a key figure in this latest development of Mr Rowland's determined campaign to gain a bridgehead in Fleet Street, just as he was in 1976 when he persuaded Atlantic Richfield (ARCO) to buy the paper from Mr David Astor. He is now chairman of Observer International, which will share control with Mr Rowland in the new scheme.

Both Lord's and ARCO were opposed to the takeover by Mr Biffen of their now abandoned deal to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. He is required to do this under the Fair Trading Act of 1973 in connection with the takeover of a newspaper with a circulation of more than 500,000, unless it is both uneconomic and under immediate threat of closure.

The Observer sells about a million copies a week. Although it has been losing money recently, the paper has made a trading profit of about £50,000 last week.

A director of the Observer company told me that Mr Robert Anderson, chairman of ARCO and of The Observer, had agreed senior management that he would keep the paper going if there were a reference to the commission's newspaper panel, which takes up to 13 weeks to produce a report.

The Act defines a newspaper proprietor as any person or corporation with control of 25 per cent or more of the votes at a general meeting of the company owning the newspaper. Lord's originally offered a 40 per cent stake in its wholly-owned Glasgow newspaper publishing subsidiary, George Outram, in exchange for 100 per cent of The

The over-fat nation from down under

From Douglas Aiton Melbourne, March 20
It has become clear over the past 20 years or so that Australians are no longer anything like the sun-broiled, lean, life-guard type that has for so long been their image overseas. But it now emerges that Australians are a sedentary race, obesity is rife and heart failure is reaching alarming proportions.

According to an Adelaide nutritionist who has been studying the subject in considerable detail, Australia is fast becoming one of the most unhealthy and disease-prone nations.

In a report, Dr Basil Hetzel said only the Finns had a higher incidence of heart disease, and the incidence of obesity, particularly among children, had reached frightening proportions. Drinking and smoking habits had also reached alarming levels.

Dr Hetzel has called on the South Australian Government to introduce a more intensive programme of physical education in schools. He said it was crucial for Australians to drastically rearrange their dietary patterns, and become more active in leisure activities.

He emphasized that he was not repeating the old message about smoking and drinking, but said "It is so important for Australians to finally realize that there are so many aspects of their lifestyle that are not good for them."

"Australians are becoming very complacent about their health. They think they will be automatically healthy because of the favourable physical environment in which we live, and this is not true."

"The man in the street today is simply not active. He leads a sedentary lifestyle, going to and from work on wheels, and is inactive in his leisure. The number of hours spent in front of television is alarming—about 30 hours a week on average."

Dr Hetzel said recent research showed that the rate of heart disease in Japan was, on average, one seventh of that in Australia. The Italian rate was half.

This was because the Japanese and Italians consumed much greater quantities of cereals and vegetables, while the Australian diet was too heavily based on dairy products and meat.

"Australians today are eating too much fatty and energy-rich foods, including a high level of refined carbohydrates. They are not consuming enough fibre," Dr Hetzel said.

He said the number of overweight middle-aged men and women is striking. Evidence also shows there is an extremely high number of overweight children too.

Riot trial jury discharged

Two more men were acquitted at Bristol Crown Court of riotous assembly in St Paul's, Bristol, last year. The judge then discharged the jury which, after two and a half days, had been deadlocked in the case of the remaining four accused.

The foreman had said that in the case of the only woman accused, they might be able to reach a decision. When the judge discharged the jury there were cheers and applause in the court.

Banks may close

Branches of Barclays Bank could be shut down if the clerical staff pay dispute escalates. A bank official said union members would probably be suspended if they failed to fulfil normal work.

So-slow at Gatwick

Gatwick will be disrupted at the weekend when the Civil Service pay strike spreads. Customs officers will be strictly enforcing regulations, and incoming and departing passengers face long delays. Mr Len Murray, the TUC leader, has strongly supported the strikes.

German spy swop

rau Christel Guillaume, wife of a former de Herr Willy Brandt, has been released from jail in a spy swop between East and West Germany. The unmasking of the Guillaumes as East German spies led to the resignation of Herr Brandt as Chancellor.

Hattersley challenge to Dr Owen on policy

The Social Democrats' "bubble" will burst when they try to work out a policy, Mr Roy Hattersley, Labour Home Affairs spokesman, said. Dr David Owen responded that there were difficulties over an agreed policy. But it was a good sign to start with a joint leadership "with no cult of the leader".

Angola repeal sought

The American Government wants Congress to repeal a law prohibiting aid to rebels in Angola—and an anti-communist leader in Angola will soon be asking for American help.

Israeli political rumpus

An Israeli television report that Mr Shimon Peres, the Labour leader, held secret meetings with Arab leaders, has caused a political controversy. The affair could damage the party's electoral prospects.

Broadcasting

From this weekend broadcasting moves from the Saturday Review to the inside back page.

Inflation rate starts to rise again

The retail price index rose 0.9 per cent last month, and the annual rate declined to 12.5 per cent. But on six-month figures, which give a more accurate guide to price inflation, the rate rose from 7.1 per cent to 8.2 per cent, and with the effect of Budget measures to come, further increases are inevitable.

Foot and mouth checks at 14 English farms

By Hugh Clayton
Agricultural Correspondent
Transport of animals was banned yesterday to and from 14 farms in Hampshire and Dorset which had received animals from a livestock market on Wednesday in Ringwood, Hampshire.

It was attended by a man who had been to a Jersey farm where foot and mouth disease has been confirmed.

The Ministry of Agriculture,

EEC fails to resolve fish dispute

From Michael Hornsby Brussels, March 20
Attempts to avert an angry confrontation between Mrs Margaret Thatcher and Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, over fishing policy at next week's EEC summit meeting in Maastricht, Holland collapsed here today.

The trouble has arisen because of a British veto on an EEC-Canada fisheries agreement, which would allow West German deep sea trawlers into rich cod fishing grounds off Labrador and Newfoundland.

Most of the German boats have been laid up because of the delay. The fishing season in Canadian waters ends about mid-April, and as it takes five days to reach them from German ports, the fisheries deal will be of no use unless it is quickly ratified.

The difficulty for Britain is that the deal with Ottawa would also cut tariffs on imports of some 24,000 tonnes of frozen fish from Canada, much of which, it is claimed in London, would land up in an already depressed British market.

Senior EEC officials today discussed measures for strengthening the fish market in the hope of persuading the British to lift their veto.

Britain has reduced its demands, but they are still considered too steep by other member states.

The European Commission had proposed a 10 per cent increase in the minimum "support" prices for cod, haddock and hake. Britain was prepared to reduce its earlier demand for a 25 per cent increase in the support price; to 20 per cent for cod, 15 per cent for haddock, and 10 per cent for hake. But other countries would not concede price rises higher than 12 per cent or so.

German anger, page 4

Panama aircraft stands by for Señora Perón

Panama City, March 20.—An aircraft is standing by to bring Señora María Estela Perón, the former Argentine President, to Panama, according to the former Panamanian Ambassador to Argentina.

A federal judge in Buenos Aires today convicted Señora Perón on the corruption charges pending against her. She was sentenced to eight years in jail, but peronist sources said that an executive pardon by the military Government, obliging the former President to leave Argentina, was imminent.

Señora Perón was found guilty of diverting about £450,000, intended for flood victims, into her private bank account, and of signing a £250,000 cheque for charity into the account while she was President.—Reuter and AP.

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Hattersley jibe at Owen policy 'bubble'

By George Clark
Political Correspondent

Attacking both Labour and Conservative defectors to the proposed Social Democratic Party with equal venom, Mr Roy Hattersley, Labour front-bench and champion of "mainstream" socialism, said yesterday that at the moment the Social Democrats enjoyed the advantage of having no policy at all, but when they tried to work out one "the Social Democratic bubble will burst".

Speaking to Labour Party members in King's Lynn, the constituency of Mr Christopher Brocklebank-Fowler, who left the Conservative Party to join the Social Democrats, Mr Hattersley predicted trouble for the new party, to be launched on Thursday.

"At the moment it enjoys the great advantage of having no policy at all; it can be the party of anybody's dream with supporters who fantasize about the policy it will eventually adopt," he said. "But sooner or later it will have to say what it really stands for."

The Tory defector raised fascinating possibilities, Mr Hattersley said. Mr Brocklebank-Fowler, when asked to resign his seat and fight a by-election under his new colours, had replied: "I was elected on promises at the last general election. It is not me who is not keeping those promises, it is the Government."

Dr David Owen, MP for Devonport, asked much the same question, gave much the same answer: "We have abandoned no undertakings we gave to the electorate in 1979."

So both men got high marks for individual consistency. "Consistent they may be, but compatible they certainly are not. Not that, unless they go in for the kind of double standards that caused Dr Owen so much distress."

Mr Hattersley said that all the public knew about the Council for Social Democracy was its talent for public relations: "its banks of telephones, its news management, and, above all, its intention to recruit members through credit card payments; a decision that says more about them than cash ever could."

Mr David Steel, the Liberal Party leader, told the Welsh Liberal Party annual conference at Colwyn Bay last night, that separately the Liberals and the Social Democrats could offer only to influence events in the next House of Commons. "But together an alliance can offer the British people an alternative choice of government to the two state options they have had for nearly 40 years."

Bank says dispute may bring shutdown

By Donald Macintyre
Labour Reporter

Barclays last night gave warning that escalation of the pay dispute with clerical staff could result in the shutdown of bank branches throughout England and Wales.

The bank's line in defence of the employers' "final" 10 per cent pay rise offer, which drew an angry response from union leaders, raises the spectre of the dispute in the mid-1970s which closed the Irish banking system for seven months.

Mr John Quinton, a Barclays general manager, said the bank, which is the country's biggest, would be ready to retaliate if the dispute entered the second phase planned by the Banking Insurance and Finance Union.

The bank's two computer centres at Gloucester and Wythenshawe, Cheshire, which that operated by Lloyds in London, will be affected next week by two separate 24-hour strikes, which constitute the first phase of the union's action.

Mr Quinton said that the union's members who did not fulfil their normal work routines, for example by refusing overtime written into their contracts of employment, would probably be suspended.

We do not want to take provocative action, although we do believe that the one-day strikes are not sensible and many of our staff do not support what we see as muscle-flexing by union officials.

But of suspensions during a second phase of disruptive action, which could include more widespread unannounced walkouts or overtime bans, Mr Quinton said: "We would be prepared to do that if we had to."

Mr Quinton suggested that if business was so severely disrupted in one bank that it could not operate, then others might well close. "It is a considerable possibility that all banks in England and Wales could close," he said.

A senior member of the Committee of London Clearing Bankers, which has met privately to review the dispute, said last night: "We are not going to allow one employer to be picked off as in recent years."

Minister urged to prevent circumvention of scrutiny by Rowland move on 'The Observer'

By a Staff Reporter

The purchase by Mr Rowland (Tory) of a 50 per cent stake in the company which owns The Observer was described last night by Mr John Smith, Opposition spokesman on trade, as a blatant attempt to avoid the public scrutiny involved in a reference to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

"If Mr Rowland is able to avoid a reference by these manoeuvres we might as well forget about the Fair Trading Act because it is so easily circumvented," he said. The takeovers of The Times, The Sunday Times and The Observer were rendering the Act a farce.

Mr Smith called on Mr John Biffen, Secretary of State for Trade, "to make it crystal clear to Mr Rowland that, however he manoeuvres, he will not be able to avoid the public scrutiny which he seems to find so unappealing."

The resolution adopted said the chapel remained convinced that a change in ownership must, in the public interest, be referred to the commission for consideration. Refusal welcomed: The Press Council welcomed Mr Biffen's refusal to allow the Lornho takeover of The Observer without a report from the monopolies commission (the Press Association writes).

Mr Kenneth Morgan, the council's director, said that, had the Government approved a second important national newspaper takeover as a fait accompli, it would have been a serious blow to the credibility of legislation supposed to protect the public from increasing concentration of newspaper ownership in fewer hands.

£3m stake: Mr Rowland will need to find about £3m from his personal fortune to buy 50 per cent of The Observer newspaper from Atlantic Richfield (Philip Robinson writes).

Although he was unavailable for comment last night, Mr Rowland, now believed to be the second highest paid chief executive in the country on £244,938 a year, has underwritten three cash-raising exercises for Lornho without fee in the past four years.

In the past year he has spent about £12m buying 13 million Lornho shares to bring total stake in the group 39.3 million shares, which last night's closing St. Exchange price of 95p is worth about £37.3m.

In addition he retains control over a further five million shares that were given Mr Daniel K. Ludwig, a personal friend, who is said to be the world's richest man, in hotels deal two years ago. Mr Rowland has the option to buy the five million shares before August 31, 1982, at price between 69p and the prevailing middle price 30 days preceding his given notice purchase them.

Takeovers are making a farce of Act, Labour says

By a Staff Reporter

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Law governing press takeovers

By a Staff Reporter

The sections of the Fair Trading Act, 1973, relevant to newspaper takeovers are set out below. Part V, section 57, subsection 1: "Newspaper proprietor" includes (in addition to an actual proprietor of a newspaper) any person having a controlling interest in a body corporate which is a newspaper proprietor, and any person in a body corporate in which a newspaper proprietor has a controlling interest.

Section 57, subsection 2: In this part of this Act "transfer of a newspaper or of newspaper assets" means any of the following transactions (whether involving a transfer or not) by virtue of which a person would become, or would acquire the right to become, a newspaper proprietor in relation to a newspaper: (a) any transfer of assets necessary to the conduct of a newspaper as a separate newspaper (including good will or the right to use the name of the newspaper); (b) any transfer of plant or premises used in the publication of a newspaper, other than a transfer made without a view to a change in the ownership of the newspaper or to its ceasing publication.

Section 57, subsection 4: For the purposes of this section, a person has a controlling interest in a body corporate if (but only if) he can directly or indirectly determine the manner in which one quarter of the votes which could be cast at a general meeting of the body corporate are to be cast on matters, and in circumstances, not of such a description as to bring into play any special voting rights or restrictions on voting rights.

Section 58, subsection 1: Subject to the following provisions of this section, a transfer of a newspaper or of newspaper assets to a newspaper proprietor whose newspaper has an average circulation per day of publication amounting to 500,000 or more copies shall be unlawful and void, unless a transfer is made under a sent given (conditionally or unconditionally) by the Secretary of State.

Section 62, subsection 1: A person who is knowingly concerned in, or privy to, a purported transfer of a newspaper or of newspaper assets which is unlawful under section 58 of this Act shall be guilty of an offence, and shall be liable, on conviction, to imprisonment for two years or to a fine or to both.

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Election tests Dublin manoeuvrings

By Our Political Correspondent

All political parties in Northern Ireland will seek to use the by-election in Fermanagh and South Tyrone as a test of opinion on the Government's latest manoeuvrings in Dublin.

In the Commons, the motion for a writ was put by Mr James Moynihan, leader of the Official Ulster Unionists.

It is expected that polling will take place on April 9. The writ for the by-election was issued yesterday, to fill the place in the Commons left by the death of Mr Frank Maguire, an Independent committed to the unification of Ireland.

In the normal way, a writ is issued on the motion of the party that held the seat. Since Mr Maguire was an Independent, consultation took place between the party whips, but eventually Mr Moynihan acted on his own initiative.

He said: "As leader of the main political party in Ulster, I felt that I had a duty to ensure that the people of Fermanagh and South Tyrone should have an early opportunity to elect a fit and capable person to represent them in Parliament, in view of the special problems which afflict that constituency."

He insisted that the date had been chosen not for party advantage but to avoid the holiday period which would have interrupted campaigning. "Bitter rivalry": There may be eight contenders for the seat and it is likely that the contest will be marked by bitter inter-party rivalry. (Our Belfast Correspondent writes).

Mr Moynihan's move almost certainly means that there will be no agreed candidate representing all the Unionist parties and that the Rev Ian Paisley's Democratic Unionist Party will be putting forward a nominee.

Mr Moynihan said in a statement that the constituency Unionist association had convened a selection meeting at which all wards would be represented. A candidate would be chosen by "democratic process."

Mr Peter Robinson, Mr Paisley's deputy, said that his party was surprised that Mr Moynihan had moved the writ without consulting other Unionist parties.

Anti-Unionists are also divided, with five possible candidates already mentioned. They are Mr Noel Maguire, brother of the dead MP, Mrs Bernadette McAliskey (nee Devlin), Mr Austin Currie, and Mr Frank McManus, who formerly represented the constituency.

There is also a Provisional Sinn Féin candidate, Mao dies in chase: A young man died in Belfast yesterday afternoon when an Ulster Defence Regiment patrol opened fire on a car after a half-mile chase from the city centre to the lower Falls district.

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Hospital pay: A pay offer to 250,000 hospital ancillary workers worth 71 per cent over 15 months was expected to be put to union members by their negotiators after talks had ended yesterday. (Our Labour Staff writes).

Forecast for 6 am to midnight: London, SE, E, England, East Anglia, Midlands (E): Mainly dry and bright; cloudy later with evening rain; wind SW, fresh, strengthening; max temp 12° to 14°C (54° to 57°F).

Central N, Central S, NE England, Wales, Isle of Man: Generally dull, with rain spreading E; Wind S to SW, fresh to strong, perhaps local gale; max temp 12°C (54°F).

Mastery of social arts helped courtier reach the throne

By Martin Huckerby

The ascendancy of Mr Kenneth Harris as chairman of Observer International represents perhaps the final stage of the transformation of a well-known journalist into a cog in the wheels of high finance.

His elevation beyond the role of senior journalist and purveyor of interviews in both The Observer and on television started in 1976 when he broached the idea to the Atlantic Richfield Oil Company (ARCO) that it should take over the ailing Sunday newspaper.

ARCO bought the newspaper and Mr Harris's star began rising. He was a personal success with Mr Robert Anderson, who is now chairman of the oil company; he eased Mr Anderson's social path in Britain and became, in effect, the ARCO representative in The Observer management.

Such progress, putting him above his nominal superiors, was not well received by many at the newspaper, and when last month Mr Anderson proposed that the new vice-chairman of The Observer should be Mr Harris, it was rejected unanimously by the rest of the board, who regarded him as quite unsuitable for the post and lacking in any administrative experience.

It is understood that the board's rejection of Mr Harris was a factor in the ARCO decision to sell the newspaper to Lornho.

However, Mr Harris has had his revenge and has emerged as chairman of the parent company.

His success probably stems initially from his mastery of the social arts. As a former colleague put it: "He is by nature a courtier, in that he looks after the interests of wealthy men such as Anderson."

Born in 1919, he came from a Welsh mining family and won his way from grammar school to Wadham College, Oxford. His skill as a debater led to a tour of America in a debating team with Mr Wedgwood Benn and Mr Edward (now Lord) Boyle.

After a spell in Washington he returned to Britain where he developed his talent for interviews. Blessed with an excellent memory, he conducted long interviews with the famous and never took a note or used a tape recorder. It was, he once said, self-deprecatingly, like being "a village idiot with total recall."

Whatever the views of his former colleagues in journalism, he may now face much tougher challenges in the world of finance.

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Fair trading body to look into claims against papers

By Derek Harris
Commercial Editor

Sheffield Newspapers, publishers of the Morning Telegraph and The Star and part of the United Newspapers group is to be investigated by the Office of Fair Trading for possible anti-competition practices.

One claim to be examined by Mr Gordon Borrie, Director General of Fair Trading, is that newspapers were told they would be denied supplies of the Morning Telegraph and The Star if they also distributed copies of Homes, a free publication.

Homes, specializing in property advertising, is a companion publication of the Sheffield Chronicle, a free distribution weekly newspaper.

Another allegation is that local estate agents were told by Sheffield Newspapers that "certain advertisements" in their houses for sale would not be accepted if they also appeared in Homes.

Mr Borrie's preliminary investigation, which is being made under the Competition Act, could lead to a reference to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission for a fuller investigation should he find anti-competition practices have existed.

Mr Tom Watson, managing director of Sheffield Newspapers, said yesterday: "A number of difficult problems not just involving newspapers in Sheffield, are at issue here. An investigation might lead to an answer for them."

Police saw 18 people in PIE inquiry

Continued from page 1

"As a result of the seizure of property from the homes of the information exchange executives' committee various members of the organization were seen by the police. Of approximately 250 names and addresses of the committee, 18 were seen by police. All, with one exception, were found in possession of obscene or indecent material relating to children. That material included magazines, films, photographs, drawings and writings."

Yesterday neither the DPP's office nor Scotland Yard could explain the omission of the twelfth name, but it is possible that the name of a man facing prosecution with one of the 11 was left out by mistake.

The list also does not include another four people who were dealt with in various ways. In his statement to the Commons Sir Michael Havers, the Attorney General, said that Sir Peter and nine others were dealt with. Six of them, including Sir Peter, are on the list but two men and two women are not.

There were two police files concerning the information exchange. One was about the original investigation involving Sir Peter and the second concerned the executive committee and Mr O'Carroll. The original investigation began after a package had been found in a London bus.

The police list seems to straddle both inquiries, but suggests that Sir Peter was seen after the raid on the exchange. Scotland Yard was unable to say yesterday whether Sir Peter had been seen twice by the police.

The police list also reveals that Sir Peter's membership number in the "exchange" was 330 and a check of various contact sheets shows that members in the 300 range did not start appearing until the middle of 1977.

Sir Peter who retired from the diplomatic service in 1974, kept a flat at Linden Gardens, Notting Hill, London, where material for "Peter Henderson" was received.

High prices for old cameras

By Frances Gibb

Cameras, viewers, and optical accessories fetched high prices at Sotheby's Belgravia yesterday. A pocket camera obscure made in England in the early nineteenth century, expected to sell for £600 to £800, fetched £1,400.

The price, one of the highest in the sale, was paid by Vintage Cameras, a London dealer. The camera is 7 inches long, encased in mahogany with a 45-degree mirror at the back, focusing to 2 1/2 inches.

The top price in the sale, which totalled £25,051 for 192 lots (5 per cent unpaid), was £3,000 (estimate £2,000 to £3,000) paid for a fine Otteville stereoscopic wreathe camera outfit, made in 1858. It was bought by Mayfair Microscopes of London.

TUC leader supports Civil Service strike

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

The TUC yesterday signalled its support for the civil servants' dispute and called on the Government to "open the door to a fair settlement." The move came as backing from other sections of the labour movement was being arranged.

Mr Len Murray, TUC general secretary, made his public demand for Cabinet action after a private, top-level briefing from the Council of Civil Service Unions on the growing impact of the two-week dispute.

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Jubilation in court as two more defendants are acquitted and judge dismisses jury in riot trial

From Lucy Rodges
Bristol

The acquittal of two more men charged with riotous assembly in the wake of the disturbances last year in St Paul's, Bristol, and the judge's decision to discharge the jury, were greeted yesterday by cheers, clapping and clenched fist salutes at Bristol Crown Court.

The mainly black spectators poured into the street, corks at a television camera and defendants, lawyers, and some members of the jury retired into the public house opposite to celebrate.

The verdicts came just before lunch yesterday after the jury had spent 16 hours over two and a half days deciding the fate of the remaining six defendants.

The trial lasted seven weeks, and there were six weeks' proceedings in the magistrates' court. Altogether the estimated cost was £400,000.

The two men found not guilty yesterday were Mr David Royal, aged 17, of Argyle Road, Bristol, and Mr Franklin Rapier, aged 36, of Carey Court, Bristol, whom the prosecution alleged was one of the ringleaders of the so-called riot.

Mr Justice Stocker then said he would discharge the jury because there had to be "finality" in a case such as this. "If you are completely deadlocked and have no hope

of reaching verdicts on the other four, I shall with regret have to take the appropriate course", he said.

The foreman of the jury replied that they were deadlocked on three of the four but in the case of Doretha Maye, aged 25, the only woman facing charges, they might be able to reach a decision.

The judge decided, in view of that, that justice required him to discharge the jury from giving any further verdicts. He said he wanted to make one observation, that the trial had not been concerned with investigating police practice on April disturbances.

"It is perfectly plain that individual police officers acted with great courage and gallantry in these very difficult circumstances", he said. He also thanked the jury for taking so much trouble. The fact that they could not reach verdicts in four cases showed how carefully they had considered them.

Mr Justice Stocker, rejected a request from Mr Rudy Narayan, Mr Rapier's lawyer, that he should refer to the Director of Public Prosecutions any suggestion of police perjury in the case.

Yesterday's events were seen as a victory by those who had questioned the bringing of riotous assembly charges, which are considered very serious and are used rarely.

The present situation is that four defendants, who are now on bail, still face charges of riotous assembly and, in the case of Doretha Maye, a charge of threatening behaviour as well. The Director of Public Prosecutions will have to decide whether to order a retrial.

Mr Narayan, who also represents the West Indian Standing Conference, said it had been an ill founded prosecution. "I would like a public inquiry into how thousands of pounds could be spent on a trial in which the evidence has been so shaky", he said.

Initially 16 people were charged with riotous assembly. Four of the cases were dismissed in the magistrates' court, three were dismissed on Mr Justice Stocker's direction, and three were acquitted by the jury on Thursday.

Those still facing charges are Doretha Maye, aged 25, of Princess Street, Bedminster; Carlton Sharpe, aged 17, of Walton Street, Paul Binos, aged 18, and Andrew Minter, aged 17, both of Ashley Road, all Bristol. Mr Minter is the only white man to have been charged.

The prosecution alleged that there was a riot in St Paul's last year which caused damage, injury and fear, and was a concerted show of strength against the police. The disturbances originated with a police search for drugs and alcohol at the Black-and-White Cafe, in Grosvenor Road, St Paul's.

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Photographs by John Manning

The £50 note arousing hostility in London. Top, a taxi driver declines it; centre, suspicion in Leather Lane market; below, a newspaper seller finds it a nuisance and a worry.

£50 note is too rich for most tastes

By Craig Seton

The Bank of England's new £50 note, issued yesterday, has made it much easier to offend London's cab drivers and newspaper vendors, whose singular reputation has been built almost entirely on their reaction to large banknotes.

With publicans and a host of small traders in London's streets, whose businesses depend on the rapid transit of money through their hands, yesterday they almost invariably refused to change it. They declared that it lacked distinctive colour, was too similar to a £10 note, and that its value was too high for it to be necessary.

In Euston Road, Mr Douglas Logan, a newspaper seller from Plaistow, east London, said it would get a reputation as a "nuisance note". Few people would want to change it and there would be the constant worry of losing it.

He said: "If I lost £5 I would put it down to bad luck. If I lost £50, I think I would break down a bit."

Mr Garry Simmons, a taxi driver from east London, was offered a £50 note for an 80p fare. He looked at it twice before his eyes blazed and he announced: "There's no way I can change it. I might if it was a big fat. It's too much like a £10 note."

Mr Jack Adams, another newspaper seller, refused it too and looked at it twice to make sure it was not "a dud". He said: "I would change £5 for a paper, but not £50."

He and several other traders remarked that it could cause immense difficulties if such large notes turned up in pay packets on a Friday night, with the banks closed for the weekend.

At King's Cross Underground station, a dicker seller accepted it without blinking for a 20p fare, but London Transport warned bus passengers that it was highly unlikely any conductor would accept such a note and would probably take a name and address instead.

Mr Michael Taylor, a public house barman, said: "We have enough problems with £10 and £20 notes. We could not cope with more than two or three of these a day."

Stallholders in Leather Lane, in central London, not noted for turning away business, without exception mistook the note for £10 and said that its fine shade of olive green, brown and grey, with orange, ochre and purple on the back, should have been more distinctive.

In turn a tobacconist, a fish and chip shop, and a small refuse collector, who they felt the £50 note was large enough for most people. A flower seller said it was more than she took in a day and would not change it.

Whatever the reaction of the traders, the Bank of England yesterday for the new issue and at the National Westminster Bank in Holborn £1,500 worth were issued within an hour.

Campaign to reduce jobless cash fraud

By Robin Young
Consumer Affairs
Correspondent

The adult unemployed will no longer be required to register at Jobcentres if the Government accepts a recommendation published yesterday after scrutiny of benefit payments carried out in consultation with Sir Derek Rayner, Mrs Margaret Thatcher's adviser on Civil Service efficiency. A campaign is to be launched to catch benefits fiddlers.

The Government says the scrutiny team has made a strong case that registration should be voluntary, although Richard O'Brien, chairman of the Manpower Services Commission, says he doubts that savings would be anything like as great as the scrutineers suppose.

The Government has also accepted recommendations that there should be more special drives against fraud among claimants, and that in five to 10 years' time people claiming unemployment benefit and supplementary allowance should have to deal with only one office, instead of two or three as at present.

The report outlines the following measures to reduce fraud: a national computer file of every adult's work record; more investigators and special drives in every region; random checks on claims; and tougher measures against employers who collude with fraudulent claimants.

The scrutiny team made 81 recommendations, estimating that their full implementation might eventually save 5,000 staff and yield financial savings of £75m to £80m annually. The recommendations are mainly aimed at streamlining the benefit system.

The Government is to discuss the recommendations with the civil service unions, the Manpower Services Commission, the Social Security Advisory Committee, and other interested groups and individuals over the next two months, and phase its agreed procedural changes "as rapidly as possible".

The Society of Civil and Public Servants said last night that the timetable was unrealistic since the Government itself had taken four months to consider the report.

The scrutineers concluded that compulsory registration at Jobcentres does not test willingness to work. Its removal would have no perceptible effect on filling vacancies, would eliminate wasted effort, and make the employment service more efficient.

The Government has decided to treat with caution the scrutineers' estimate that at least 8 per cent of benefit claimants are working unlawfully.

Miss Ruth Lister, director of the Child Poverty Action Group, which refused to help the scrutiny because the Government insisted that none of its proposals should involve net increase in public spending, said unclaimed benefits far exceed fraudulent claims.

"About one quarter of £400m of benefits unclaimed in 1979 should have gone to the unemployed", she said.

The Payment of Benefits to Unemployed People, Department of Employment and Department of Health and Social Security, (Stationary Office, £2.35).

Welsh schools face increasing strain

By Diana Geddes
Education Correspondent

A startlingly gloomy picture of deteriorating standards of educational provision in Welsh schools and colleges is given by the school inspectors (HMI's) in a report published yesterday by the Government.

The report, which is based on inspectors' observations last year, before the latest round of big spending cuts, and on returns made by Welsh education authorities to January 1980, is similar to the inspectors' report on spending by English education authorities, published last month.

In Wales, as in England, they found an educational system under serious and increasing strain because of spending cuts and, in schools, difficulties caused by the falling number of pupils.

The reduction in some secondary school staffs had placed at risk subjects such as music, classics, or a second modern language, the report said. Big reductions in part-time teachers were having a particularly adverse effect on remedial provision in primary schools.

Cuts in educational visits outside school had fallen heavily on remote, rural schools which were facing a distinct threat of cultural and educational isolation. Trips forming an essential part of courses such as geography and careers, had been reduced in many schools.

Cuts in spending on books, equipment and other materials were taking their toll. Text books that were recommended rather than required reading were increasingly being bought by the pupils.

Books were becoming worn, and were not being replaced. That meant that schools were having difficulty replacing outmoded courses and many were using photo-copies.

Cuts in in-service training were widespread and those affecting senior staff were causing concern. There was little observable effect on the curriculum yet, but there were signs of arrested curriculum development in many schools.

Cuts in advisers, school clerical support, classroom assistants, and laboratory, technical, and library assistants were placing extra burdens on teachers and affecting the quality of their work.

Teacher morale remained reasonably good, but was showing signs of strain. It would be difficult for teachers to respond to new demands.

The deterioration in the maintenance of school buildings "may encourage an acceptance of lower standards". However, in general local authorities and schools were coping reasonably well. Overall, the fabric of education in schools was intact and the economies were not yet preventing schools from providing appropriate education.

But, the report emphasises, "the continuation of present expenditure policies must have substantial adverse effects in some schools... the preoccupation of the system with short-term survival augurs ill for the future, especially if further cuts are imposed".

Overall, two in five applicants were awarded places, but the success rate varies widely from subject to subject. For example, 78 per cent of those applying to read classics were successful compared with only 21 per cent of applicants for medicine.

The success rates for other main subjects were (in percentages): chemistry, 58; history, 51; modern languages, 43; engineering, physics, and geography, all 41; law, 39; mathematics, 38; philosophy, politics and economics (PPE), 36; and English, one of the most difficult subjects on which to enter, 28 per cent.

Among the different types of schools, candidates from independent schools had the highest success rate, one in two being accepted.

Pre-A level candidates were markedly less successful than those applying after A level, with only 32 per cent gaining places compared with 51 per cent of the post-A level candidates.

Whether applying before or after taking A level, the vast majority (more than 90 per cent) of successful candidates to Oxford were taking the university entrance examination.

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Pre-A level candidates were markedly less successful than those applying after A level, with only 32 per cent gaining places compared with 51 per cent of the post-A level candidates.

Whether applying before or after taking A level, the vast majority (more than 90 per cent) of successful candidates to Oxford were taking the university entrance examination.

Overall, two in five applicants were awarded places, but the success rate varies widely from subject to subject. For example, 78 per cent of those applying to read classics were successful compared with only 21 per cent of applicants for medicine.

Books were becoming worn, and were not being replaced. That meant that schools were having difficulty replacing outmoded courses and many were using photo-copies.

Cuts in in-service training were widespread and those affecting senior staff were causing concern. There was little observable effect on the curriculum yet, but there were signs of arrested curriculum development in many schools.

Cuts in advisers, school clerical support, classroom assistants, and laboratory, technical, and library assistants were placing extra burdens on teachers and affecting the quality of their work.

Teacher morale remained reasonably good, but was showing signs of strain. It would be difficult for teachers to respond to new demands.

The deterioration in the maintenance of school buildings "may encourage an acceptance of lower standards". However, in general local authorities and schools were coping reasonably well. Overall, the fabric of education in schools was intact and the economies were not yet preventing schools from providing appropriate education.

But, the report emphasises, "the continuation of present expenditure policies must have substantial adverse effects in some schools... the preoccupation of the system with short-term survival augurs ill for the future, especially if further cuts are imposed".

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Boat family is reunited after three years

By John Witherow

Under the harsh glare of television lights and a barrage of flashguns, seven Vietnamese "boat children" were brought into abrupt contact with their parents yesterday after three years of enforced separation.

The children, aged between five and 16, appeared stunned as their parents and elder sister were ushered in to meet them in the press room at Heathrow airport after a 20-hour flight from Ho Chi Minh City. The family was brought in 1978 when the boat in which it was fleeing Vietnam set sail hurriedly, leaving their parents stranded on the shore.

Bishop faces questions on role of Opus Dei in London girls' club

By Dan van der Vat

The Area Youth Committee for the London borough of Kensington and Chelsea is to meet the Roman Catholic hierarchy to discuss a girls' club run by the church organization Opus Dei, it was disclosed yesterday. Mr Henry Machol, the committee's chairman, asked for the meeting after reading a detailed article in *The Times* in January on the role of Opus Dei within the Roman Catholic Church. "Your article led the committee to decide that it should take the matter up," Mr Machol said.

The talks will take place on March 31 with Mr David Konstant, an auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Westminster, responsible for the district. The committee intends to report its findings later to the Inner London Education Authority (ILEA), which subsidizes the club directly and through the committee.

Cardinal Hume, Archbishop of Westminster, who is head of the Roman Catholic Church in England and Wales, called last month for evidence on the work of Opus Dei from the organization and from a former senior Opus Dei official, Dr John Roche, a principal identified source for *The Times* report in January.

The committee is interested in the Tamsin girls' club, which is attached to Dawliffe Hall, an Opus Dei residence for young women in Chelsea. The committee, Mr Machol said, he and other committee members, accompanied by an ILEA youth officer, had visited the club. He emphasized that they had found nothing to suggest that the club was anything other than a normal work of keeping in touch with young organizations of all kinds registered with us. We decided to go and see the club after the article appeared, and I think we should continue keeping an eye on it," Mr Machol said.

"We cannot fault them. Their facilities are excellent and they are giving a service to a nice type of girl, and they all seemed happy enough when we were there. We said we would welcome letters from parents saying that they, too, were happy with the club. We have had one or two, which is hardly enough to draw conclusions from," he said.

Why was the committee persisting with its interest? "Dawliffe Hall is one thing and Opus Dei is another," Mr Machol said. "I am very concerned about the reported aims of Opus Dei, its recruitment of teenagers, and the way of life of its full-time members. I think it is our duty to satisfy ourselves that it is right to support the club with ratepayers' money."

The Area Youth Committee, one of 12 in inner London, has about twenty members and brings together people active in youth work in its district, including representatives from the church and lay groups, the ILEA, the local borough, the police, the social and probation services, and the like. Its role is to allocate funds for day-to-day needs in addition to ILEA grants and to ensure that youth groups are properly run. An ILEA official said the authority was not reconsidering its grants to Opus Dei youth clubs. More than 3,000 youth groups were registered and about 650 received financial support from ILEA. The same criteria were applied to all of them, and all grants were kept under constant review. "There is also continuous and careful monitoring of standards," Registration of a group with an area youth committee did not imply approval of its aims.

Opus Dei was founded in Spain in 1928 as an organization for lay people run by priests. It now claims 80,000 members round the world in various levels of association. The "inner circle" of members, known as "numeraries", are expected to live a monastic life in an official residence. Opus Dei is campaigning for greater influence within the church as a spokesman for the Tamsin Club said from Dawliffe Hall yesterday: "I have no comment to make at the moment. I prefer not to say anything."

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Fran Christel Guillaume: Instructed to infiltrate SPD.

Brandt aide's wife freed in spy swop

From Patricia Clough Bonn, March 20

Fran Christel Guillaume, the wife and accomplice of Günther Guillaume, whose unmasking as an East German spy led to the fall of Herr Willy Brandt, the former Chancellor, has been released in a spy exchange with East Germany. It was announced here today.

Herr Kurt Becker, the government spokesman, disclosed that "several" spies had been pardoned and exchanged for a number of people in East German jails, but he declined to say how many or when. It is understood that the exchange took place yesterday.

He said that there was "no question" of exchanging Herr Guillaume, a former personal aide of Herr Brandt, who is serving his sentence in a jail at Rheimsch, near Bonn. Herr Guillaume and his wife, who had entered West Germany in 1956 as "political refugees" with instructions to infiltrate the Social Democratic Party (SPD), were sentenced to 13 and eight years respectively for treason.

Herr Hans-Jörg Herdgen, the Guillaume's lawyer, said there was "no basis whatever" for speculation that the Guillaume had become estranged, "even though they have had precious little married life during six years in jail".

The couple have seen each other regularly about once every two months, he said. Now she has been pardoned, Frau Guillaume is free to return to West Germany from the East and visit her husband as often as prison regulations allow.

Herr Herdgen denied remarks by Herr Becker that after she had served two thirds of her sentence Frau Guillaume had refused to apply for parole—as is customary in West Germany—so that she could go on seeing her husband.

She had not asked for parole, the lawyer said, because she knew it was almost always refused in espionage cases.

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Bonn ready to confront Europe

From Peter Norman Bonn, March 20

Mrs Margaret Thatcher will be confronted with an "iron Chancellor" in the person of Herr Schmidt at next week's EEC summit in The Netherlands, according to West German officials today.

Herr Schmidt will be going to Maastricht, determined to get Mrs Thatcher to lift the veto that Britain has imposed on an agreement between the European Community and Canada, which is threatening the livelihood of Germany's deep sea fishing fleet.

The official sources said Herr Schmidt expects the Prime Minister to give an undertaking—and then to keep to it—that Britain will no longer block the agreement with Canada.

They said that if the Chancellor failed to get his way, there would inevitably be repercussions on the negotiations that Britain has yet to carry out with its EEC partners to ensure that London is not funding more than its fair share of the Community budget for 1982.

The fishing issue is only the most critical of several EEC questions where West Germany feels that it is being treated

badly by its Community partners. Bonn has publicly accused Britain of breaking its word to agree to common fisheries policy by the end of last year.

Herr Schmidt is expected to use the Maastricht meeting to spell out his Government's profound unhappiness at the way in which France, Britain, Belgium and Italy have been subsidizing their steel industries to the detriment of German plants.

He is also expected to underline Bonn's conviction that the basic principles of the European Community are under threat from the nationalist policies being pursued in other European capitals.

"Historically, the European Communities have been based on a package made up of a functioning internal market, goods, capital and labour, the common agricultural policy and the transfer of resources to the neediest regions," one senior aide of the Chancellor said.

"In the present situation, Germany is not getting its fair share of the package. The internal market is being upset by national and protectionist attitudes."

For Bonn, fish and steel are

important because German jobs are threatened, but officials claim that there are numerous examples of how the internal market is being undermined by protectionist measures.

The jobs of 2,000 fishermen and 10,000 fish processing workers are at risk along the north German coast, and it is claimed that tens of thousands of jobs could be lost in the coming months in the steel industry of the Ruhr.

"How can you expect the German steel industry to compete with foreign producers who are subsidized to the tune of 100 marks for every tonne of steel they make?" one senior official said.

Government sources confirmed that Bonn has been considering ways of easing the pressure of "unfair" competition on the German steel industry.

Herr Schmidt is expected to point out to his fellow heads of government that German public opinion is becoming increasingly disenchanted with the European Community and that Bonn will find it difficult to gain support for policies that involve transferring large sums of money abroad.

"We need a Community that is not only a fair weather Community," an official said. "In times like these, member states emphasize their own national interests and tend to lose the capability to compromise. But a compromise means give and take and Germany will not accept a situation where the rest of the EEC expects Germany to give and has no take to offer."

Government sources insisted that the militant noises coming from Bonn were not a smokescreen. The pressures on Herr Schmidt to take a strong line have grown at home.

The German economy, while still the strongest in Europe, is in recession. Politically, the Chancellor has serious problems with his left wing and recent opinion polls suggest that the majority of Germans want more leadership from the Government. An EEC summit at which Herr Schmidt takes a firm line with Germany's partners in the Community could go some way to satisfying this demand.

The threat was disclosed by Liberal politician Mr George Mavros just as the House was debating the serious damage caused by the recent spate of earthquakes. He said: "Some parts of this building are in danger of collapse. And if this happens while the House is in session there might be many casualties, even a need to proclaim a state of emergency."

Mr Dimitrios Pappaspyrou, who has been the Speaker for the past four years, confirms that parts of the upper floors in this three-storey ochre building developed dangerous cracks before the recent earthquakes.

"This is because of poor materials used in the past," the Speaker said, "but mainly because our library which comprises 1,200,000 volumes is a squeezed space that parts of the upper floors were overburdened structurally and may fall."

But this did not mean the lives of MPs were in peril. Even if the whole library collapsed, Mr Pappaspyrou said, "it would not disturb the central hall of Parliament, but I would certainly be undignified."

Parliament, which dominates Constitution Square, was designed by Bavarian court architect Leo von Klenze 140 years ago as the palace for young King Otto, the first King of Greece. It was from a ground-floor window of this new palace that Otto, who had reigned "by the grace of God", consented after a revolt in 1843, to grant a constitution.

The building underwent several architectural changes during the 11 years of republic rule after the ousting of the monarchy in 1923, and the interior, remodelled in 1928, serves as Parliament. It was inaugurated in 1935.

What Mr Pappaspyrou finds intolerable is that Parliament should occupy only about 30 per cent of the building, which also houses the offices of the Prime Minister, the Deputy Prime Minister, the Under Secretary of State, the Cabinet office and, Mr Pappaspyrou's voice rises perceptibly here, the "Conseil d'état"—the Supreme Administrative Court.

"The heavy load from the judicial side of this is a threat to the safety of the building," the Speaker said. He has been trying for years to have this august tribunal moved elsewhere, without success. He believes that if the court is removed, the library could be expanded and the volumes more evenly distributed throughout the upper floor.

Mr Pappaspyrou deplored the fact that, because of the lack of space, the parliamentary committees "which do most of the work in Parliament" are forced to hold their sessions in halls assigned to the use as lounges by the political parties.

Countess faces charge over church treasure

Brussels, March 20.—A Belgian countess has been remanded on charges of receiving stolen church treasures valued at several hundred thousand dollars, police said today.

Countess Genevieve de Beaufort, 53, was transporting two stolen statues when her car was stopped in a routine traffic check and searched, police said. With her in the car was Mr Hubert Tassin, who was recently released from prison.

The countess was said to have told police that she was aware that the statues were stolen and was in the act of returning them to church authorities.—Agence France-Press.

Three cleared of murder over Milan bombing

From Our Own Correspondent Rome, March 20

The decision of the court in Catanzaro today to acquit three people of the most serious charges arising out of Italy's first large scale act of political terrorism has attracted harsh criticism.

Sixteen people died and more than 100 were injured. On December 12, 1969, when a bomb exploded in a bank in central Milan.

Early inquiries placed the blame on the left-wing anarchists but this line of investigation was changed and three neo-Fascists were then accused of the massacre. One of them, Signor Guido Giannettini, was released today.

It emerged during the Catanzaro hearings that he had worked on behalf of the secret service. Pietro Valpreda and Mario Morino, the other principal accused, were acquitted of a charge of mass murder but had sentences of 15 years for their role in the bombing.

In effect the result of the appeals means that the real authors of the first terrorist attack in Italy still remain officially unidentified.

West tells Russia to end Madrid stalling

From Richard Wigg Madrid, March 20

The Netherlands today gave a blunt warning to Moscow on behalf of all the EEC countries that the Ten were no longer prepared to let the European security review conference drag on indefinitely.

The West now has its eyes set on terminating the Madrid conference by April 10. The warning to the Russians to stop their stalling tactics of refusing to discuss anything except holding a European disarmament conference, had been expected here for days. Today, the United States associated itself with the move.

Mr Frans van Dongen, head of the Netherlands delegation, denied that the West was issuing notice of intention to pull out from the ill-starred Madrid conference, a casualty of heightened East-West tension.

This was because of a decision to fix a terminating date must be taken unanimously by the 35 nations attending the conference.

Emphasizing for the first time that the Madrid conference was "costly" to the governments' exchequers, Mr van Dongen set as a modest

aim of the Madrid gathering an agreement to hold another Helsinki act follow-up meeting by 1983.

Every participating state would be reluctant, he argued, to refuse to agree to such a follow-up conference. But the Dutch diplomat refused to disclose what the West might do if the Russians refused consent, as they have been vaguely hinting here.

"We do not want the whole Helsinki process itself to become an object of ridicule; the longer it goes on the less good it does the process," Mr van Dongen commented today about the Madrid follow-up conference. He was speaking at a press conference which agreed to extend the conference for another week, the third beyond the originally foreseen date of conclusion.

Accusing the Soviet Union of "warping" the 1975 Helsinki accords, the Dutch diplomat, who is chairman of the EEC group, said he saw no hope of any progress of substance on either human rights or human contacts being made in this concluding phase of the Madrid conference.

Space arms curb sought by Swedes

From Our Correspondent Geneva, March 20

In a sharp reaction to reports of successful testing of a "killer satellite", Sweden called today for measures to prevent an arms race in outer space.

Mr Sune Danielsson, the Swedish delegate to the 53-nation legal subcommittee of the United Nations Committee on Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, said that because of the world's growing dependence on space technology for communications and meteorology, all countries had the right and responsibility of seeking to prevent an arms race in space.

While the United States and the Soviet Union had held discussions on prohibiting anti-satellite weapons systems, there was no word of any results. He supported an Italian proposal for an additional protocol covering this field to be added to the 1967 treaty banning the deployment of arms in outer space.

However, reports now indicated the possibility of other weapons systems—such as anti-ballistic missile systems—being used to destroy satellites.

The legal subcommittee, meeting between March 16 and April 10, is also dealing with the use of satellites for remote sensing of the earth's resources and direct television broadcasting—other potential targets for "killer satellites".

The Soviet block and some Latin American countries maintain that these uses of satellite technology without the consent of the subject or receiving states would amount to a violation of national sovereignty.

Libya halts oil supplies to Greece

From Our Own Correspondent Athens, March 20

Libya is withholding crude oil shipments to Greece until the Greek authorities return a Libyan defector who crashed his Soviet-built MIG23 jet fighter in Crete last month.

The Greek Government insists that the Libyan pilot, who has not been identified, was granted political asylum and was then referred to the Athens office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, which sent him to a country of his own choosing. The wreckage of the aircraft was returned to Libya.

Soon after the incident a Greek trawler was seized by gunboats off the Libyan coast and its crew was put on trial on charges of poaching in Libyan waters.

This week two Greek tankers sent to Libya to take on 180,000 tons of crude oil, out of a consignment of 1,500,000 tons that Libya has undertaken to sell to Greece in 1981, returned to Piraeus after waiting in vain for three weeks to load the crude. The captains were told unofficially that, if the pilot was not returned, there would be no more oil for Greece.

Greek officials said tonight that documentary evidence that the Libyan pilot was no longer in Greece had been forwarded to Tripoli, in the hope that the incident could be considered closed.

The officials added that Greece had already secured adequate quantities of crude oil from Iraq, Saudi Arabia and the Soviet Union to cover its requirements for this year.

Watch factory staff end work-in after five years

From Our Own Correspondent Paris, March 20

One of the longest industrial conflicts ever known in France finally ended today when the workers' occupation of the Lip watch factory in Besancon was called off after nearly five years.

The workers have now found other premises from which to operate the two cooperatives that have been formed from the former company.

The Lip saga began in the summer of 1973 when the workers, worried about the financial instability of the factory, locked up five members of the management while they took possession of 65,000 watches worth 100 million francs (€13m). A month later the company went into liquidation and the workers organized their own sale through the sale of watches.

For a month they occupied the factory and then were removed by the riot police. The unions declared that the factory was theirs and the workers were refused to give up the fight.

The faith of the workforce in their ability to continue was rewarded in 1974 when the commercial tribunal in Besancon agreed to the formation of three small companies in the Lip works under a left-wing patron, M. Claude Neuschwander.

Conference on Belize set for next month

By Our Diplomatic Staff

A conference has been set for April 6 at Marlborough House to draw up a constitution under which the Central American colony of Belize will become independent, preferably by the end of this year.

On May 20 negotiations on final treaty will begin between Britain and Guatemala, which has recently agreed to give up most of its claims to Belize territory.

A framework for the final treaty has recently been agreed, but Britain says that even should the Guatemala talks fail, it will proceed to give independence to Belize.

While opinion polls show 63 per cent of French people favour the death penalty, an execution at this stage would

Clemency appeal dilemma for French President

From Our Own Correspondent Paris, March 20

A request for presidential grace will be lodged with the Elysée next week on behalf of M. Philippe Maurice, whose appeal against the death sentence for the murder of a policeman was turned down last night.

Under French law only the President can now stop the sentence being carried out. There is no legal time limit on a decision, which can take anything from seven weeks to 10 months.

The timing is such that the sentence could be carried out either before or after the presidential election and President Ciscard d'Estaing cannot be accused of political implications of any decision he may take.

While opinion polls show 63 per cent of French people favour the death penalty, an execution at this stage would

certainly damage the President's liberal image. But if he chooses to do nothing, he will be criticized for political cowardice and indecision.

The President has given his grace to four condemned prisoners, but three others have been guillotined since he came to power in 1974. Earlier this month he said that the abolition of the death penalty was a change which could not come about until society was more peaceful.

Of the three other main presidential candidates, only M. Francois Mitterrand, the Socialist leader, has said unequivocally that he is opposed to the death penalty. M. Georges Marchais, the Communist leader, has said he is against it, but that it would need a parliamentary debate in a calmer time to end it. M. Jacques Chirac, the Gaullist candidate, wants a referendum after a full national debate.

United States Administration asks Congress to repeal law that forbids aid to Angola insurgents

From Patrick Brogan
Washington, March 20

The United States Government has formally submitted to Congress a proposal that the law forbidding aid to insurgents in Angola be repealed. The law is known as the Clark Amendment and was passed in 1976, during the civil war in Angola, when the Ford Administration backed anti-communist forces there.

A State Department spokesman said today that because the United States had not recognized the Marxist regime that took power in the civil war, it did not consider the regime a government. Dr. Jonas Savimbi, the leader of Unita, the last surviving anti-communist guerrilla movement in Angola, is coming to the United States soon and will certainly ask for aid.

If the Angola Government is not a government, then the United States can assist its opponents with a clear conscience. The situation is quite different in El Salvador, where the Soviet Union and Cuba are assisting insurgents against a properly constituted and recognized government.

This argument will meet with heated opposition. Mr. Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, said yesterday that the Administration's policy on southern Africa was still under review. He was asked, by a Republican senator, why the Clark Amendment should be repealed during the review, the act which would seem to indicate the direction in which the review will go.

The reply, given by the State Department today, was that the amendment should be repealed "because it casts an unusually all-encompassing restriction on the authority of the President." The amendment not only prohibits aid to Angola without specific congressional approval, it prohibits all covert activity there, too.

President Carter wanted it repealed, for much the same

reason, although there was no question of sending arms to Unita. There are similar restrictions on the sending of arms to Mozambique; but no suggestion that those restrictions should be lifted. The United States recognizes the Government there and four American diplomats were recently expelled. Food aid was therefore suspended last week. This involves about \$5m (£2.25m) in wheat and rice and 27,000 tons of maize.

Dr. Savimbi's visit here is private, and the Administration has yet to decide whether he will be permitted to see any government officials. He will certainly see senior Republicans in Congress who can then brief officials.

This was presumably done with another southern African visitor this week, Mr. Dirk Mudge, leader of the South African-sponsored Government in Namibia. He led a delegation of his colleagues here and saw a number of senators and congressmen, including Senator Charles Percy, chairman of the Senate foreign relations committee, but no officials.

There is growing fear in Africa that the Reagan Administration intends to tilt its African policy towards South Africa. Serious reservations have been expressed recently by African leaders, including Mr. Robert Mugabe, but until the policy review is completed and its results announced, the State Department is not answering the question whether there is a tilt or not.

The Secretary of State's testimony to the Senate yesterday included a reference to the need to amend various restrictive laws. The official proposal to lift the Clark Amendment was made that same evening.

Mr. Haig said: "It is impossible, in March, 1981, to predict with any certainty what crises may erupt in the coming months. We are therefore proposing special requirements funds for

the economic support funds and military assistance programme and a number of amendments to legislation that would facilitate the achievement of our policy objectives." The State Department has, in the meantime, decided that the delegation of senior security officials from South Africa which visited Washington last week, was issued with visas through an "inadvertent" omission in their visa applications.

Namibian delegation: The Reagan Administration's sensitivity about guerrilla activities close by in Latin America has made it more sensitive about such activity everywhere. Namibian leaders said after an unofficial visit to Washington this week (Our Diplomatic Staff writes).

The four-person Namibian delegation, led by Mr. Mudge, was refused official meetings in Washington but met some congressmen and lesser State Department officials informally, according to Mr. Peter Kalangu, president of the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance (DTA). The group was in London yesterday on their way back to Windhoek.

The Namibians went to Washington to argue for a solution of the problem of South Africa-dominated Namibia outside the United Nations, which recognizes the South-West African People's Organization as representing the Namibian people.

Death penalty upheld: An Angolan appeal court has upheld death sentences for 17 people convicted of planting bombs for Unita, according to the Angolan news agency Angor (Reuters reports from Lisbon).

Ango said the appeal court had commuted the death sentence on one of the 18 prisoners originally condemned to face a firing squad; but had imposed capital punishment on another accused, earlier given a 24-year jail term.

President Shagari takes no for an answer

By Our Diplomatic Staff

President Shehu Shagari of Nigeria has lived up to Britain's assessment of him as a patient and pragmatic man who can take no for an answer.

That is a good thing, because an absolute or qualified "no" is what he has received from British leaders on every main political request of his visit.

His hosts have, on the other hand, given an "encouraging response" on proposed joint economic ventures, and discussions are proceeding on arms contracts worth about £600m, President Shagari said yesterday at the end of his state visit.

The Nigerians have made no headway on persuading Britain to adopt stringent economic and sports sanctions against South Africa; and they have been told by Britain that no new initiative on Namibia is possible until the United States decides on its policy concerning the territory.

The Nigerians feel strongly about the level of British university and technical college fees for foreign students; but they again failed to win a British policy change. And on the broader question of concessions by the world's rich "North" to the poorer "South", President Shagari found Britain and its allies "too rigid".

The Nigerian leader, a small slightly clerical figure, said he had used every opportunity during his British visit to emphasize the "collusion and connivance" of Western powers that allowed South African apartheid to survive.

"The British authorities still believe in persuasion with South Africa," Mr. Shagari said. "I determined to give all necessary aid to freedom fighters in South Africa."

Nigeria was "determined to continue to give all necessary aid to freedom fighters in South Africa."

A school teacher by training, Mr. Shagari spoke at length about his exorbitant fees that Britain charges students from outside the European Community.

"It is incredible to think that EEC countries obtain more assistance than Third World countries which are poor," he said.

Britain had agreed that the fees of the existing 8,000 Nigerian students in Britain—



President Shagari: Every important political request rejected; but encouraging response to joint business.

few of whom were Government-sponsored—would be frozen at their present level for now, "but that is not enough," the President said.

Nigerians are finding that for the cost of educating 10 students in Britain, they can educate 20 in the United States.

The increasing visit between Nigeria and the United States is raising mixed feelings in Whitehall, though Britain is co-sponsoring itself with its £1200m in exports to Nigeria last year and the prospect that this will increase.

President Shagari said yesterday that his state visit to the United States was still studying the African situation, "and for

the moment we can give them the benefit of the doubt."

Britain is hoping that the American Administration will fall in quickly with Britain's policies on southern Africa.

During Mr. Shagari's 18 months in office as Nigeria's first civilian President for 13 years, his first important visit outside Africa was to the United States. But though President Shagari went to Washington, the American visit was in connection with a United Nations appearance, and so did not really count. British officials like to say that his state visit to Britain is the one that matters.

Exporters warned, page 19

Lord Soames to make opening address at Zimbabwe development conference

From Nicholas Ashford
Salisbury, March 20

Lord Soames, the former Governor of Rhodesia who presided over the country's transition to independence last year, is expected to "set the tone" for the Zimbabwe Conference on Reconstruction and Development (Zicord) when he addresses the opening session on Monday immediately after his inaugural speech by Mr. Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister.

About 200 delegates representing at least 28 potential donor nations and 16 international organizations will be attending the conference which has been called to raise £804m towards development projects in the next three years.

The lion's share of this amount, 65 per cent of the total, is being earmarked for land reclamation, settlement and rural development, which Dr. Robert Mugabe, the Minister of Economic Planning, has said is vital for the political and economic stability of the country.

So enthusiastic has been the response from the countries invited to attend that there has been an uneasy wrangle over which of them should speak first.

However, it was decided that Lord Soames, who arrived in Salisbury this morning, should open for the donors' party in recognition of the part he played in bringing Zimbabwe to independence, but also because Britain has made it clear that it intends to maintain its present position as the largest donor.

Britain has already committed itself to an aid programme worth £75m over three years as well as other assistance such as its military training programme. British officials in

Zimbabwe have indicated that Lord Soames will pledge substantial additional aid funds to Zimbabwe next week (although they are not saying how much) in the hope that this will encourage other potential donors to loosen their purse strings.

Some contributions towards the country's development programme are already known, for instance, Zimbabwe will receive £15m from the European Development Fund under the terms of Lomé 2 and Mr. Claude Cheysson, the EEC Commissioner for Development, is expected to announce additional aid funds to Zimbabwe over the next few months until its membership of the Lomé Convention has been finalized.

The new United States Administration has approved \$75m (£34m) in aid to Zimbabwe for the forthcoming year, although this has still to pass through usual congressional processes. A few more millions may come Zimbabwe's way through various American regional funds.

Much attention will be directed to the Arab delegates attending the meeting. The Kuwait Development Fund has already sent two delegations on visits to Zimbabwe and has shown interest in a low yield dam and irrigation scheme.

There has been speculation that Kuwait may be prepared to pour substantial amounts of petrodollars into Zimbabwe and that this will encourage the Saudis to follow suit.

The Zimbabweans are under few illusions that they will attract much of the £804m target by the time the conference ends on Friday. However, they hope that by then a substantial proportion of this amount will have been committed and that other donors will leave Salisbury with the intention of making a

contribution during the three-year period of the development programme.

The Zimbabweans believe donor countries will respond generously to their appeal despite the world recession. This confidence is based on the Zimbabwean contention that if the country can obtain a large injection of development aid now it will not have to go back to ask for more as most other developing countries have to do.

"Zimbabwe has the capacity to become an aid donor itself in the next few years if we can get at a one-time massive injection of resources to redress the imbalances resulting from our colonial past and to rehabilitate the economy after years of sanctions and war," Mr. Tom Mswaka, Permanent Secretary at the Department of Economic Planning, said.

He emphasized that the success of the conference was not just important for Zimbabwe but had enormous significance for the future stability of the southern Africa and for North-South dialogue. "For once you have a situation where a developing country can quickly become independent of aid," he said.

The Zimbabweans have certainly been assiduous in their preparations for the conference. During the past few weeks teams of experts have been touring potential donor countries explaining what Zimbabwe's objectives are.

One Western diplomat said: "This meeting has been as well planned as any organized by the United Nations, which is remarkable considering the department responsible was only established six months ago."

Mr. Mugabe and other black "front-line" leaders believe that the South Africans have derived considerable encouragement from the more sympathetic attitude towards South Africa adopted by the Reagan Administration.

Mr. Mugabe recently spoke in favour of better relations between the United States and South Africa. His Administration has also been reported to be considering other moves which have alarmed black African leaders, such as lifting the ban on arms supplies to the South African-backed Unita guerrilla organization in Angola and a possible invitation to Mr. Pieter Botha, the South African Prime Minister, to visit Washington.

Mr. Mugabe's letter also reflects black Africa's inability to take effective measures to force South Africa to end its ways. A press conference yesterday Mr. Mugabe admitted that Zimbabwe could not participate in sanctions against South Africa because of its country's economic dependence on it.

Bangui clashes after Dacko victory

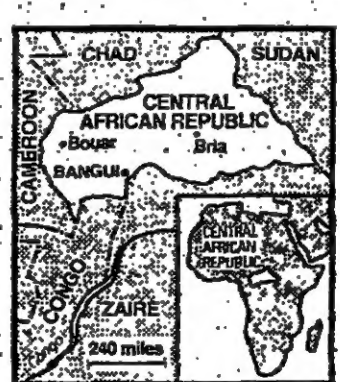
Bangui, March 20—President David Dacko of the Central African Republic today declared a state of siege as police and soldiers fought with youths protesting against his victory in last Sunday's election.

Informal sources said about 50 people had been injured, some seriously. Several had received bullet wounds, the sources said.

President Dacko, who was officially declared elected with 50.2 per cent of the vote, decreed a state of siege and authorized the Army to fire on troublemakers.

By the afternoon the capital was quieter after most of the youths had left the streets and returned to suburbs west of the city.

Many of the demonstrators said they were supporters of Mr.



Angé-Fatasse, a former Prime Minister, who took 38 per cent of the vote. Mr. Fatasse is a critic of the French military presence here.

Since France sent in paratroopers in September, 1979, to

help overthrow Emperor Jean-Bedel Bokassa and install Mr. Dacko, French soldiers have remained and now number about 1,500.

Opposition politicians have alleged that Mr. Dacko rigged the polls. If he had received less than 50 per cent of the vote there would have been a second ballot on Sunday.

All shops in the commercial centre of the city closed because of the demonstrations and much of the traffic left the streets. Informal sources said that five members of the security forces were among the injured.

By placing the country in a state of siege, President Dacko has made the Army responsible for the maintenance of law and order. Even before this declaration the Government had imposed a night curfew—Reuters.

Witwatersrand students shout down minister

Johannesburg, March 20—Hundreds of university students, most of them white, disrupted a speech by a South African cabinet minister today, shouting "Fascist" and "Siege Hell" and singing the anthem of the banned African National Congress (ANC).

Dr. Piet Koornhof, Cooperation and Development Minister, was shouted down at Johannesburg's University of the Witwatersrand by the students, who also pelted him with paper missiles and hurled a milkbottle.

His speech coincided with the eve of the twenty-first anniversary of the Sharpeville incident, when 69 blacks were shot dead by police during a riot.

He attempted to outline the policies of the ruling National Party and said one-man-one-vote would never be possible in South Africa. "If you will give me the opportunity, I will tell you my party stands for improvement," Dr. Koornhof said. "But he drew chains of apartheid, apartheid."

He said his party stood "for the just and equal treatment of all groups in this country"—Reuters.

Campaign against opium growing reduces production in Pakistan

From Trevor Fishlock
Feshawar, March 20

"How much heroin do you want? A kilo? Two kilo? Fill a suitcase? No problem. Plenty of opium, no problem." The little scotchcap driver finds his trade useful for meeting visitors to the North-West Frontier who might be interested in buying his opium or the heroin distilled from it is a crude post-and-pans laboratory a few miles out of town.

He proudly offered a sample of powder in each. "This one smoking, this one injection. You try, and if you not satisfied you don't buy."

There are many tons of opium in the frontier region, in caches large and small. In no time it is being reduced to heroin, more profitable and much easier to transport, by peripatetic heroin makers working for a fee.

The North-West Frontier province is one of the world's largest opium-producing areas. Two years ago its output equalled the combined harvests of Mexico and the so-called "Golden Triangle" of South East Asia. The province, where all Pakistan's opium poppies grow, is an important source of the opium and heroin going to Europe and the United States.

In the tribal districts of the frontier, where state law writ does not run and Pashan tribespeople live by their own codes, rough brown cakes of opium are on display in the markets. Heroin is kept under the counter in plastic bags and is weighed out for purchasers on little brass scales.

In the Khyber Pass town of Landikot, 25 miles from here, opium prices quoted to me by shopkeepers ranged from £30 to £40 for a kilo.

Heroin can be had for about £250 a kilo. The same quantity is being sold for about £20,000 in New York, where, cut, diluted and sold on the streets, it might be worth £1m.

Rumpus in Israel over secret Arab talks

From Christopher Walker
Jerusalem, March 20

A bitter election row has broken out in Israel over authoritative reports that Mr. Shimon Peres, the leader of the opposition Labour Party, held secret meetings with prominent Arab leaders during a brief visit this week to Europe and North Africa.

In a series of interviews today, Mr. Peres refused to confirm or deny a report by the political correspondent of Israeli television that he had a meeting yesterday with King Hassan of Morocco, and earlier in the week with Prince Muhammad, a brother of King Hussein.

The television account has been flatly denied in Morocco and Jordan. The Moroccan Information Minister called it "a pure and simple fabrication" designed to sow Arab discord.

An official spokesman in Amman described the report as "untrue, baseless, and nonsense." Despite the ferocity of the denials, western diplomats here believe that the meetings did take place. A Labour Party source said tonight: "The significance of the meetings has been blown out of all proportion by deliberate leaks by someone opposed to the whole idea of trying to reach a peace with the Arabs."

According to the television report (which Mr. Peres is convinced was inspired by the Israeli Government) the meeting with the Jordanian prince took place in London. The opposition leader then flew to Rabat and stayed overnight in a Moroccan hotel before his talks with King Hassan.

It is reliably understood that Mr. Peres sought and received permission in advance from Mr. Menachem Begin, the Israeli Minister, to meet with the Moroccan ruler.

Despite being the object of swingeing political attacks today by his right-wing opponents, one of whom accused him of treachery—Mr. Peres refused to deny the report on the meetings. He acknowledged that he did meet Arab leaders, both openly and in secret, and did not intend to reveal whom he met secretly.

Pressed further about his alleged discussions with King Hassan—the leader who met Mr. Moshe Dayan, the former Foreign Minister, before the Camp David negotiations—Mr. Peres said that as the Moroccan royal palace had denied publicly that such a meeting had taken place this week, he regarded the matter as closed.

But Mr. Peres obliquely confirmed the story by claiming that what had been broadcast about "the substance" of his meetings with the Arabs had been fabricated for home consumption and was incorrect. This had included a report that he had informed King Hassan that a Labour administration would try to find a solution to disputes over Jerusalem with Saudi Arabia.

The ruling Likud coalition was quick to seize on the account of the secret meetings as welcome ammunition in its continuing campaign to brand Mr. Peres as a "soft" on the whole Palestinian issue. The Peres talks are thought likely to prove a political setback for Labour, which has recently lost its once sweeping lead in the opinion polls.

Killing of UN troops condemned

From Michael Leapman
New York, March 20

After four days of wrangling, the Security Council finally agreed to a statement this morning deploring the killing of two Nigerian members of the United Nations force in Lebanon.

Herr Florin of East Germany, the council president, read the statement shortly after midnight, after an acrimonious six-hour final meeting.

It was the first experience of United Nations in-fighting for years. Kirkpatrick, the United States representative, and the first test of the Administration's militant posture in international affairs.

The main dispute was over whether the statement should be directly critical of Israel, which supported the Christian militia responsible for the deaths of the Nigerians and the injuries to 20 others. Among the 15 council members, the United States opposed singling Israel out.

The compromise finally hammered out called for the inclusion in Herr Florin's statement of a re-reading of the text of the 1978 resolution which established the United Nations force. The second paragraph of this calls on the UN to stop military action against Lebanon.

Most members wanted only that section of the resolution attached to Herr Florin's statement but the Americans insisted that the whole resolution should be appended.

Concern in Italy over El Salvador

From Peter Nichols
Rome, March 20

The El Salvador developments are followed keenly in Italy not only because they pose the question of how to deal with a nation seeking its own destiny but also because of the Roman Catholic Church which, by force of circumstance, has a central role to play. The main reason for this is the murder of Mr. Oscar Romero, the Archbishop of San Salvador, a year ago.

Senator Luigi Granelli, a leading Christian Democrat, member of the Senate's foreign affairs commission, today drew attention to the need for a more realistic appraisal of the situation. It was time, he said, to discard the misleading ideas that real independence for El Salvador must mean a Cuban-type government subservient to Moscow.

He was one of three speakers at a commemoration here of the anniversary of Archbishop Romero's murder. He said that both the Christian Democrats and the Socialist International were seeking a means for reaching agreement on El Salvador, but the problems were complex, particularly because of the international implications.

Argentine denial: General Viola, the President-designate, today denied that Argentina had agreed to send troops to El Salvador if America intervenes in the conflict in that country. (Andrew McLeod writes from Buenos Aires)

Mugabe call on Mr Reagan to condemn South Africa

From Our Own Correspondent
Salisbury, March 20

Mr Robert Mugabe, the Zimbabwean Prime Minister, has called on President Reagan to state clearly that he does not support the policies of the South African Government in Namibia and within South Africa itself, or its aggressive policies towards black neighbouring states.

In a letter to Mr. Reagan, the text of which was issued here today, Mr. Mugabe claimed that South African intransigence in Namibia, which was responsible for the collapse of last January's conference on the United Nations settlement plan for the territory, was "inspired by the belief that South Africa has in our Administration a staunch supporter of her retrograde policies."

He urged the United States to show that it was playing a positive role in ensuring that South Africa acceded to the wishes of the Namibian people.

Referring to the presence of several thousand Zimbabweans in South Africa who were allegedly being trained to carry out sabotage operations against his administration, Mr. Mugabe asked the United States to voice its opposition to these "hostile adventures by South Africa."

He also said that a strong stand by the United States against South Africa's racial policies would help to destroy apartheid.

"The issues are clear and so

one hopes that your position as leader of a country renowned for democracy cannot be otherwise than unequivocal," he wrote.

Mr. Mugabe's letter reflects the concern of black African leaders about the increasingly aggressive policies being followed by South Africa. These have included raids against Mozambique and Angola and a series of brazen speeches by government ministers during the election campaign.

Mr. Mugabe and other black "front-line" leaders believe that the South Africans have derived considerable encouragement from the more sympathetic attitude towards South Africa adopted by the Reagan Administration.

Mr. Reagan recently spoke in favour of better relations between the United States and South Africa. His Administration has also been reported to be considering other moves which have alarmed black African leaders, such as lifting the ban on arms supplies to the South African-backed Unita guerrilla organization in Angola and a possible invitation to Mr. Pieter Botha, the South African Prime Minister, to visit Washington.

Mr. Mugabe's letter also reflects black Africa's inability to take effective measures to force South Africa to end its ways. A press conference yesterday Mr. Mugabe admitted that Zimbabwe could not participate in sanctions against South Africa because of its country's economic dependence on it.

Workers urged to weaken Pretoria regime

From Our Correspondent
Lusaka, March 20

Slaka Stevens of Sierra Leone and President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia called on South African workers today to take industrial action to weaken the "racist regime" in Pretoria.

In a joint statement released here, the two presidents agreed that, in addition to armed struggle, "the working masses of South Africa should now resort to industrial action as an effective means of weakening the very fabric of the racist regime"—Reuters.

Ottawa debate faces guillotine

From Our Correspondent
Ottawa, March 20

The Government has moved to invoke a form of closure to shorten debate on Canada's new constitution, thus almost certainly setting the stage for a confrontation with the parliamentary Opposition.

The Commons got what looked like a foretaste of battles to come when in a noisy exchange today Mr. Walker Baker, the leader of the Conservative Opposition in the House, accused the Government of showing "an absolutely flagrant disregard" of the way Parliament should operate.

In reply, Mr. Yvon Pinard, the Liberal Government's leader in the House, charged the Tories with systematic and scandalous obstruction of the business of the Commons.

Under a formula outlined to reporters last night by Mr. Pinard, the House would sit

extended hours for four days to dispose of all amendments to the Government's constitutional plan.

That would clear the way for a final vote on the plan to ask Westminster to give Canada final control over the British North America Act, this country's basic constitution, after an amending formula and a Bill of rights had been attached.

Speeches by MPs would be limited to 20 minutes, half the present maximum, but under a procedure unprecedented in Canada, members would be able to make the Speaker's list would have the right to submit 3,000-word texts for inclusion in Hansard.

Mr. Pinard, reflecting rising government anger and frustration over the slow pace of the constitutional debate, accused the Opposition of conducting a "very slow, tedious, scandalous filibuster."

Nevertheless, his announcement caught some observers by surprise as he had been indicating that the Government was not yet ready to close off the debate, now at the end of its fifth week.

Mr. Pinard, who described the proposed formula as "less drastic than simple closure," said he was not sure if it was being reduced to a mere formality or if it was being reduced to a mere formality.

Even the New Democratic Party, the third party in the House, which is supporting the constitutional measure, is insisting that there be no guillotine.

Since the motion to establish the debate-limiting rule is debatable the Government may be faced with having to use the guillotine to force it through.

Conservatives return with clear majority in Ontario

From John Best
Ottawa, March 20

The Progressive Conservatives swept back into office in an Ontario provincial election yesterday winning 70 of the 125 Legislative seats and a clear majority.

The Tories, who have held power in Canada's most heavily populated province since 1943, scored a seemingly easy victory, mostly at the expense of the left-wing New Democratic Party (NDP).

Going into the election the Tories held 58 seats to the Liberals' 34 and the NDP's 33. With last night's results, the NDP have been reduced to 21 seats. The Liberals held steady with 34.

The Conservative victory ended a six-year spell of minority government in Ontario.

The Tories had held power, but without absolute majorities, in the elections of 1975 and 1977.

The Liberal Party and the NDP concentrated on economic issues in trying to unseat the Tories; but Ontario refused to accept that the industrially powerful province was foundering and needed new political direction.

Instead, they put their faith in Mr. William Davis, who has been Premier for 10 years.

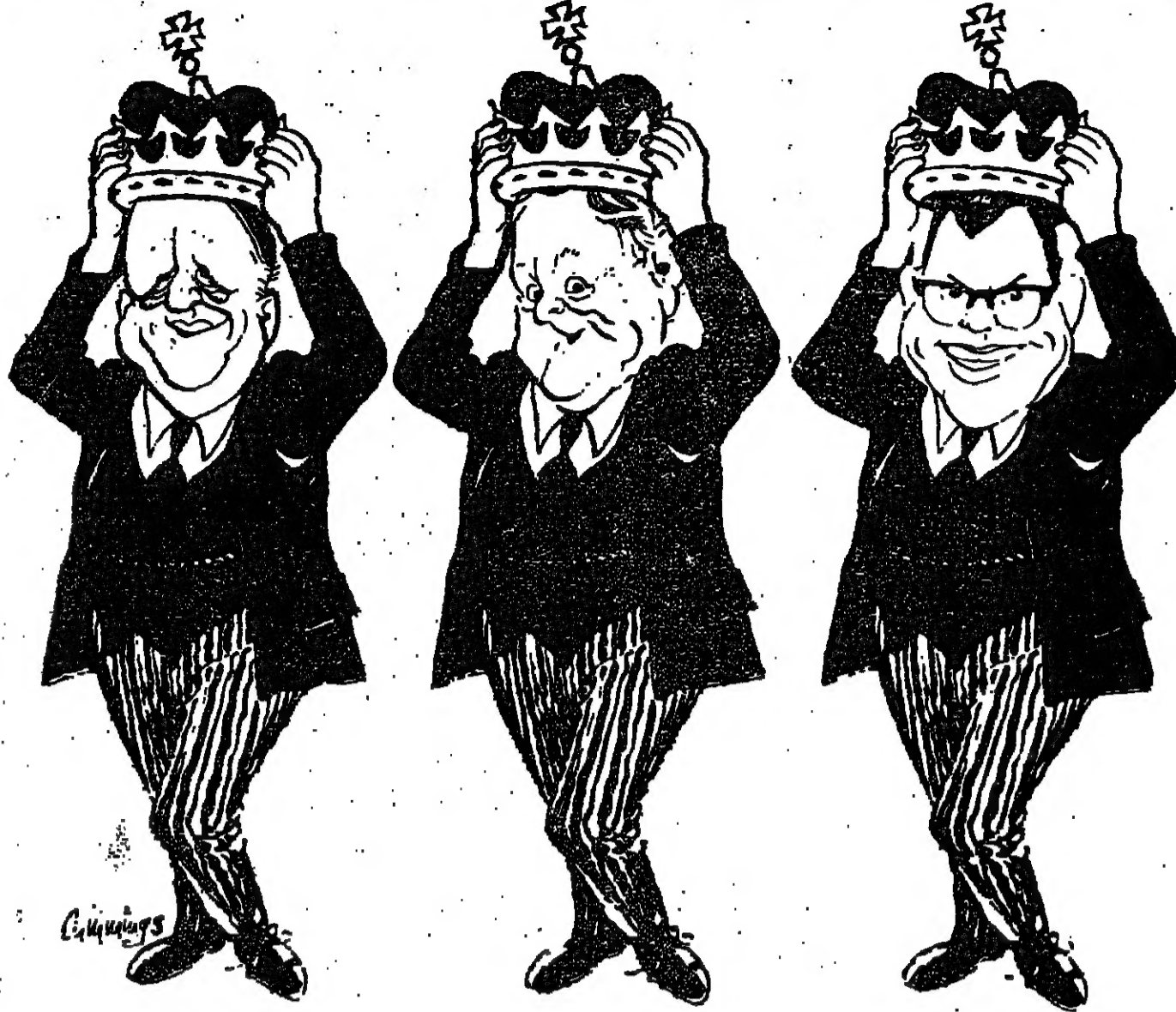
Election results		
	1981	1977
PC	70	58
Lib	34	33
NDP	21	33
Other	1	1
Total	125	125

Floods, measles and riots at Somali camps

Saturday Review

The uncrowned Prime Minister

In October 1963, Harold Macmillan, the Prime Minister, was taken ill with an enlarged prostate gland. It was clear that he would not be fit enough to fight the coming General Election, to be held at the latest in October 1964. A new leader of the Conservative Party, and therefore a new Prime Minister, was needed and chief among the candidates was R. A. Butler, the Foreign Secretary, twice before passed over for the premiership. Patrick Cosgrave explains how the crown slipped from his grasp for the third time.



Throughout the contest Butler behaved with a slightly limp-wristed dignity. He received deputations. He was available at all times to his supporters. But he could not manage to make a stirring speech at the Blackpool conference, where, after a certain amount of dissension, he was allowed to stand in for Macmillan — and he refused to intrude. All along he told those who asked him that he would serve under anybody who convinced him he could unite the party.

Blackpool was a bear garden. Home brought Macmillan's announcement that he could not go on from London and, in his capacity as chairman of the National Union, and thus chairman for Butler's speech at the final rally, he turned it to an audience in tumult. One of the problems of having the opening stages of the leadership contest staged at the party conference was that it provided the public with a spectacle of a party tearing itself to pieces. Another was the simple fact that the favourite contenders of the party in the country were by no means the same as the favourite contenders of the party in Parliament.

Thus Blackpool was the stage from which Hailsham announced his decision to disclaim his peerage, and Blackpool was the place where, because of a fine speech and his assertion of a chairman's firm authority when Butler met some heckling during the rally, Home first emerged in the public eye (and the eye of the press) as a potential dark horse candidate. But both Home and Hailsham were already vastly popular with the party rank and file; it was hardly surprising that in the rather wild atmosphere of the conference town the yearning of the delegates to have a real say in the decision should come to the fore.

Nevertheless, Hailsham's extravagant behaviour at Blackpool confirmed to most of those who could most readily influence the decision — members of the Cabinet and of the House of Commons — that he would not do.

Butler, by contrast, had a last-lustrous conference. He was humiliated, first, by being subjected to a lengthy discussion by his colleagues on whether or not the Saturday rally should be cancelled, whether Butler should merely read out the speech Macmillan had prepared or whether he should be allowed to make a speech of his own. The third of these options having been decided upon, Butler made a speech restating his own philosophy of Toryism but one which, though it reads exceptionally well, and is a most cogent piece of work, went down badly as a piece of oratory.

There was also, in its course, that vivid moment when Home rose to insist on silence for the sitting Prime Minister. He was greeted by ecstatic applause, and the contrast with the exception accorded his colleague was lost neither on the press nor on the public watching television.

In any event Macmillan had already added Home's name to his list of contenders and at around this time Home agreed to stand, but only if it was clear that he was going to win: he could accept the job only if he were the favourite on the poll.

not if he had to fight for it. Indeed later on, when he had begun to realize how many of his Cabinet colleagues were against him, he suspected Macmillan of playing around somewhat with the figures, for he telephoned the Prime Minister to say that he had thought Home was coming to heel, not to wound. To this Macmillan replied with the, as Macleod puts it, "curious observation" that "... we can't change our views now. All the troops are on the starting line. Everything is arranged."

Though it was possible for Butler to go forward in greater peace — or secrecy — in London than in Blackpool, the temperature of events remained at fever pitch in the week after the conference. The key day, as Macleod calls it, was October 17. By then Macmillan was ready with all his material; not surprisingly the Tories in the House of Lords were heavily in favour of their fellow-peer. More surprisingly, it was claimed that Home had a slight majority in the Commons. Most surprisingly it was also claimed that he had a majority in the Cabinet.

It is on this last claim that the argument about Macmillan's conduct principally turns, for, as Macleod observed, the manner in which the poll of MPs was conducted, with the Chief Whip and others pressing hard for Home, made all sorts of interpretation of the result possible, especially given that the whips were exercising a somewhat arcane system of proportional representation of their own for which, of course, there was no constitutional authority whatsoever. In the course of the morning Macleod consulted Maudling about a rumour that the succession was to be decided that afternoon. As he later observed:

It is some measure of the tightness of the magic circle on this occasion that neither the Chancellor of the Exchequer nor the Leader of the House of Commons (and, he might have added, chairman of the party) had any inkling of what was going to happen. In the course of the day Macleod, Maudling and Powell put their heads together. Powell and Macleod both spoke to Home on the telephone and gave him their view that he was not the right choice, Macleod having a particular right to address him in this way because of the jobs he held. That evening Powell, Macleod, Maudling, Frederick Erroll and, later, the Chief Whip met at Macmillan's house in South Eaton Place. They were joined at various times by other ministers and they were in constant touch by telephone with Hailsham.

It became clear that, besides Powell and Macleod, who were the strongest supporters of Butler, being determined not to serve under anybody else, both Maudling and Hailsham who were still, though vestigially, contenders, were for Butler over Home. All through this period it is a striking fact that Macmillan kept every string in his own hands as he lay in bed in the King Edward VII Hospital for Officers. He declined to allow a meeting of the Cabinet

to take place, and frequently declined to accept or return telephone calls from colleagues. He must have been acutely aware of the risk he was running: had he allowed the Cabinet to come together it would have speedily become apparent that the majority for Home which he wished to pretend existed did not, in fact, have any life outside his own imagination.

This can be demonstrated from indisputable facts in the accounts of events given by Macleod and Powell. According to Randolph Churchill's *The Fight for the Tory Leadership*, the single narrative, apart from his own memoirs, which supports Macmillan, Dilhorne (the Lord Chancellor) arrived at Macmillan's hospital bed on the morning of the 17th and reported that most of the Cabinet were for Home. Now, on the 18th, five members of the Cabinet met for lunch; their number did not include Butler, Hailsham or Sir Edward Boyle. Not one was for Home, and the three absentees, I have mentioned were all, of course, for Butler.

Macleod and Powell both assert (nobody other than the Macmillan and Home partisans has ever seriously disputed their view) that at least 11 members of the Cabinet were definitely against Home, and only two for. That left half a dozen members in the unlikely event of none of these being for Butler or Hailsham it would still be impossible to argue, as Macmillan says he did in his memorandum to the Queen, that the overwhelming majority of the Cabinet was for Home. In the event Home was so far from believing the account Macmillan gave the Queen that when she invited him to form a government he declined to kiss hands — the act of a Prime Minister on assuming the post — and instead merely undertook to attempt to do so.

On the evening of the meeting at Powell's house several of those present (including Hailsham) telephoned Butler at St Ermin's Hotel, where he and his wife were staying while repairs to their house in Smith Square were being effected. All these calls were calls of sympathy and support. Mrs Butler, combative like Powell and Macleod, advised, even begged, her husband to refuse to serve. Other members of the Cabinet — and the mounting list of names makes the Macmillan thesis of overwhelming support for Home even more preposterous — including Boyle, John Boyd-Carpenter and Butler's successor at the Home Office, Henry Brooke, telephoned with offers of support.

The following morning, after a formal meeting of ministers, Butler telephoned Dilhorne. He asked the Lord Chancellor to arrange a meeting of the candidates opposed to Home — so that Macmillan would know how strong the opposition to his favourite was. Dilhorne attempted to do this, but Macmillan declined to take his call. A little later Maudling and Hailsham visited Butler to repeat their willingness to follow his lead. But by then Home was at the Palace.

Immediately after lunch Home sent for Butler and told him that unless he and Maudling were willing to serve he could not go on. In the evening Home, Butler, Hailsham and Maudling met together, accompanied by the Chief Whip. It became apparent that Hailsham and Maudling were taking a softer line than Macleod and Powell: they preferred Butler, but were willing to serve under Home. Butler asked for the night to think things over. By the morning he had agreed to serve. As Dilhorne wrote to him on October 23:

By your action you have held together the Tory party at a very critical time. I do not doubt that if you had refused to serve, Alec would have failed to form a government and if you had then been sent for, which seems most likely, I think you would have started under very heavy criticism, for it would indeed be hard to justify a refusal to serve on a ground of policy — for there was no difference of policy — and differences of policy are really the only justification for refusing to serve a colleague. Many would have thought that you had refused to serve Alec only to secure your personal advantage and that would certainly have done serious harm to your standing. As it is your reputation stands tremendously high for the way in which you behave in a situation of the very greatest personal difficulty.

At about the same time Martin Redmayne told Butler that it would have been possible to alter the decision in his favour, but that would never thereafter have been happy. "With this diagnosis," Butler wrote, "I agree."

It is my judgment that

Macmillan engaged in a conspiracy to prevent Butler succeeding him. But it is not enough simply and baldly to contrast the Prime Minister's behaviour with Butler's own self-sacrificing, public-spirited and loyal conduct. Enoch Powell, who has a much more ruthless, blood-and-thunder approach to politics, felt something very near contempt for Butler's refusal to strike Home down — as Home himself admitted he could have done. But the matter cannot be confined to the No. 10 meetings that took place after Home had been to the Palace: it all started much earlier.

Writing of the 1957 succession Butler observes that whereas he, borne down by the burden of government, had not time to organize his supporters, Macmillan had his well organized and marching in advance. Whatever the facts about 1957 it is indisputable that, in 1963, Butler did nothing to organize his troops until it was far, far too late. It is perfectly possible reasonably to argue that Butler was not faced simply with a choice between serving or bringing down the roof on Home's head. Had he begun to put a team together from the moment he knew Macmillan could not continue, the situation would, by October 17-18, have been far clearer. He could, for example, when he visited Macmillan in hospital before going north to Blackpool, have made it known that he intended to fight a battle, that he did not seem merely to have confirmed Macmillan in his longstanding opinion that Butler simply had not got the meat of the matter in him.

Again, at Blackpool, Butler was almost supine. In the dispute over who should deliver the speech to the rally he left

his colleagues to debate the matter by themselves: there was no insistence on his part. He spoke to anybody who wanted to speak to him, affirmed that he very much wanted to be Prime Minister, and admitted that he thought himself by far the best qualified candidate. But he did not try to urge people on. If Hailsham's candidacy was mounted with an extravagance and a vehemence that proved ultimately destructive, it could equally be argued that Butler lost the job by lack of animation.

Even when the conference had ended and all concerned had returned to London it was clear that Mrs Butler — loyal, devoted and possessed of a personality both attractive and determined — was stronger in her husband's cause than he was himself. Butler merely went the rounds of his daily duties, saw his friends, listened, to the gossip, watched the steady emergence of Alec Home, surmised accurately that Macmillan was engaged on a mastery and ruthless intrigue — and did nothing.

In the circumstances it was little short of astonishing and a great tribute to his fundamental power of personality and the excellence of his record that men of naturally passionate and committed natures, particularly like Powell and Macleod, stood by his standard to the bitter end, and even refused to follow his surrender. It is almost as though he had a fatalistic conviction that the thing would never go his way, whatever he did.

Once one looks at Butler in this perspective — not simply as the man who refused to make a

last-ditch stand against his rival, but a man who, all along, did so little to help himself — one must admit that the question of the validity of Macmillan's analysis of his character must arise again. Was or is there something in Butler's nature that makes him, for all his great gifts, unfitted for the highest post, unable to find within himself the resolution and the steel (Macmillan's word) required for the efficient discharge of the highest responsibility?

Would this man have had the strength — he certainly had the vision — to rally a battered party and lead it to victory at the polls? Could he, thereafter, have governed with the ruthlessness that Britain's declining economic and industrial situation required — a task at which the far younger and more energetic Harold Wilson failed so dismally?

It is impossible, of course, to be certain about any of these things. Home, after all, who had many strikes against him, who was a wretched performer on television, and who ran a very flickering campaign, came within an ace of victory; it is impossible to say whether because the innate decency and straightforwardness of his nature got through to the electorate, or whether there was a last-minute scamper away from Harold Wilson's socialism. In my opinion Butler could have done at least as well, and he also had the priceless advantage, as Macleod observed, of having a proven appeal to voters who were not Conservative which Home did not possess.

Could he have governed effectively? There is nothing in his record, save his lack-lustre approach to contests for the leadership, which suggests that he could not, and he had, as Macleod again observed, a remarkable capacity for doing better in any job than he was expected to. There is no doubt that he discharged his duties as stand-in for both Eden and Churchill in 1953 most effectively. His two subsequent periods as acting Prime Minister were too brief to enable any serious judgment to be formed on his capacity. But there are certain indications in his career — and notably his handling of the 1961 conference on Rhodesia — which suggest that once indisputably in charge he could behave with power and decision.

Anthony Howard, who has been selected as Butler's official biographer, has chosen as his title *The Uncrowned Prime Minister*. It is a most apt title, though it is much to be regretted that the book has implications that could easily be judged unfair to Butler. After all, the man has had an extraordinary career of brilliant public service, and even if he is judged to have been found badly wanting either before the Second World War or during the Suez crisis, the depth of the distinction with which he served the state (and his party) can hardly be doubted by any serious critic or historian.

The same question does always arise, however: why did he not become Prime Minister? Was it circumstance? Was it some fatal flaw in the man himself? And the answer, as usual in these cases, is probably something of all three.

And there is one other factor which has cropped up again and again. It is that despite his loyalty, amounting almost to servitude to his party, in spite of his repeatedly avowed ambition, in spite of his lack of ruthlessness in pursuit of personal ends, in spite of the fact that he has a legion of devoted admirers, in spite of all these and many other things, Butler has always managed to raise doubt, suspicion and dislike wherever he has gone.

This is not merely a matter of criticism of him for, say, his stand on appeasement, or for his apparent disloyalty during the Suez operation. It is not, in a word, a criticism of his supposed weakness, or his supposed unsoundness of policy matters.

It is, rather, a profound suspicion of something in the man that his enemies (and even his milder critics) seem not altogether able to define. Of course many have resented (and have had cause to resent) the sharpness of his tongue, or his undoubted intellectual arrogance, his apparent detachment from ordinary concerns, his lofty air, his occasional verbal cruelty, his many indiscretions, smoothed over and blotted out in his book. But even the sum of all these things does not convey the total effect which, again and again, has ensured a solid body of backbench Conservative opinion opposed to Butler, and not all of them by any means on the right of the party.

There is no possible ground for questioning his absolute commitment to an ideal of public service: that commitment was and is held to a degree and with a fervour more usually found in men and women greatly inferior in intelligence. It is exceptional in a man with his kind of philosophical and sceptical, as well as speculative, mind. But at every turn in his career service has been put before his own instinct or his own ambition.

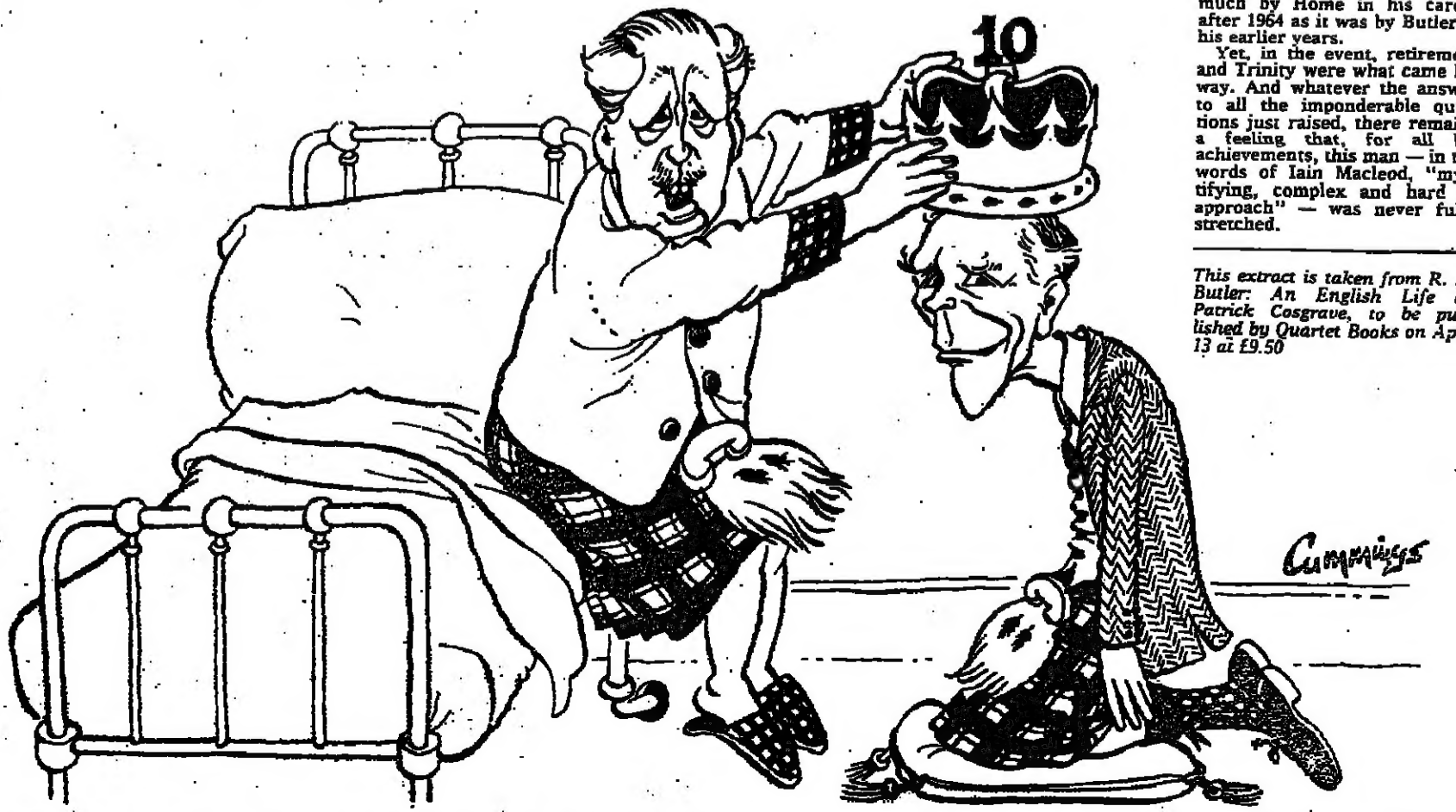
It is interesting to speculate on what would have happened to Butler and Home had Home managed to win the 1964 election. The conventional opinion (which I share) is that the Labour Party would then have split, and the Conservatives would have been faced with the exceptional challenge of remaking themselves in government as they once did in opposition after 1945.

It is unlikely that Butler would have been a creative Foreign Secretary, in the sense of one striking out in new directions, for formulating new policies: for all his ability as a technical diplomat he never showed himself innovative in foreign affairs. Besides, he would have had behind him a Prime Minister of exceptionally strong character and views whose entire senior experience was in foreign policy. In my view they would have made a remarkable combination.

It is also important to remember that Butler remained as chairman of the party's advisory committee on policy until the defeat of 1964. Furthermore, when Home appointed Edward du Cann as chairman of the party, du Cann's brief was to embark on a programme of ruthless reform. Home never had the time as Prime Minister to show what he could do, as Butler never had the time as Foreign Secretary. For all their differences they had striking similarities, particularly in their single-minded devotion to service, shown as much by Home in his career after 1964 as it was by Butler in his earlier years.

Yet, in the event, retirement and Trinity were what came his way. And whatever the answer to all the imponderable questions just raised, there remains the feeling that, for all his achievements, this man, the words of Iain Macleod, "mystifying, complex and hard to approach" — was never fully stretched.

This extract is taken from R. A. Butler: An English Life by Patrick Cosgrave, to be published by Quartet Books on April 13 at £9.50



Cummings' cartoons — copyright Express Newspapers

Collecting

Liberty of expression

The Wiener Werkstätte (Vienna Workshop) was founded in 1903 by Josef Hoffmann and Kolo Moser, both members of the Vienna Secession. The pre-war days of the WW have been well documented; the mutual respect between Hoffmann and C. R. Mackintosh, the major commissions for the Palais Stoclet in Brussels and the Cabaret Fledermaus in Vienna and the furniture and metalwork made to the designs of Moser and Hoffmann.

Little, however, is known of the 14 years of the WW's existence after the First World War. In 1906 Kolo Moser resigned from the WW to devote himself to painting and from 1910 the WW ceased making furniture except on commission; although in 1903 Hoffmann had enough architectural commissions to keep a workshop busy supplying decorative interiors for him, within a few years the WW became increasingly inevitable a convincing alternative to Paris fashion flourished with the patronage of patriotic Austrians. In 1912 Josef Wimmer, an admirer of the British "Liberty" style, took over and designed not only dresses but textiles, handbags, and a variety of accessories, making the fashion house the most successful element of the WW.

In 1905 the range of items made by the WW was widened when the newly formed Wiener Keramik began to supply a variety of useful and ornamental ceramics. The Wiener Keramik was founded by Michael Powolny and Bertold Löffler, both of whom were students at the Vienna Kunstgewerbeschule, where Hoffmann and Moser taught. Löffler was responsible for many of the designs while Powolny did the modelling, and it was Löffler who was the principal instigator of a more decorative idiom than the black and white geometry of Hoffmann and Moser.

In 1913 Hoffmann founded the Kunstlerwerkstätte, a workshop where materials and facilities were made available to students from the Kunstgewerbeschule. About this time the school itself was beginning to change from designing on a drawing-board to allowing students to work directly with materials in the workshop.

The teachers who included Powolny and Löffler, also encouraged the students towards free expression while handling the materials. The Kunstlerwerkstätte was an extension of this programme; selected students from Hoffmann's classes could use the facilities free of charge on condition that the WW was given first refusal on all the work.

In 1915 Dagobert Peche joined the WW and his leanings towards decoration were reinforced by his influence. With the privations of the war it was impossible to continue making objects with rare or expensive materials and Peche encouraged the Kunstlerwerkstätte to turn its attention to salable, frugal, ephemera which were a far cry from Hoffmann's original aims. Peche himself designed embroidery, lace, hand painted silk cushions, ceramics and hand coloured papers as well as some metalwork and furniture.

During the war most of the students who took advantage of the Kunstlerwerkstätte were obviously women, including the most important and most versatile designers of the WW's later years, Maria Likarz, Fritz Löw, Hilda Jesser and Mathilde Flogl. Maria Likarz was primarily a graphic designer, Fritz Löw was interested in fashion and Mathilde Flogl specialised in murals and interior decoration and worked closely with Hoffmann.

In 1922 Hilda Jesser returned to teach at the Kunstgewerbeschule but continued to supply designs to the WW. She retired in 1967 but still lives in Vienna and wishes that her students could have had the experience that the WW gave her when she left art school.

These four women supplied designs for ceramics, leather goods, glass, enamels, embroidery, lace, hand bags, cushions, hand coloured papers, book bindings—whatever the Kunstlerwerkstätte shop belonging to the WW could sell. Branches were also opened in Zurich, Breslau, Maribor and—as an attempt to help post-war Austria—in New York, but none of them displayed any conspicuous success.

About 200 artists supplied the WW with designs; most of them had been drafted from the Kunstgewerbeschule and half of them were women. The designs were charming, playful and pretty and, when shown at the 1925 Paris Exhibition, were attacked by the modernist Adolf Loos for their decorative excesses. They were luxury items for wealthy customers but they have a distinctive, jaunty style of their own.

The formal geometry of Hoffmann's metalwork had given way to a more brightly coloured geometry in bright colours for a purse made out of small glass beads; a piece of lace had figures inspired by Löffler's interest in Russian peasant art; the carpets and textiles were more colourful. Incidentally, some of the carpets and textiles designed by the WW are still produced by the Viennese firm of John Bauer & Söhne, who originally made them.

At the beginning of the 1920s two new designers joined the WW, Susi Singer and Vally Wiesethier; in 1926 Gudrun



Ceramic head by Gudrun Baudisch

Baudisch also began to supply designs. These three young women specialised in ceramics and had their own studios but worked in a similar style. Their most distinctive work was ceramic heads or figures of women; Singer's have softer, gentler demeanours than the others; Wiesethier's are like herself—bright and sparkling and tarty, with rouged cheeks, and neat little hats perched on one side of the head. Baudisch appears to be made of sterner stuff; her women are more solemn and brooding and have, as one contemporary artist put it, "an Orientalist subtlety". All three give the appearance of working in the clay quite crudely and use bright colours, painting their ceramic faces with lipstick, mascara and eye-shadow in a manner which can

be almost disturbingly aggressive. By 1932 the succession of financial backers came to an end; a second attempt at opening in New York had failed; Dagobert Peche had died in 1923 and in 1925 the ceramic workshop had closed. In October the WW closed and sold its stock off at auction; during the next few years nearly all those who had been closely connected with the venture left Austria as the Nazis moved in, although Gudrun Baudisch organized her own workshop in Hallstatt, near Salzburg, where she is still working. Vally Wiesethier popped up in New York, for a time in partnership with the Paris couturier Paul Poiret. A long awaited account of the WW is to be published this year in Vienna, *Die Wiener Werkstätte: Kunst und Handwerk 1903-1933* by Werner J. Schwegler. If you are visiting Vienna it is well worthwhile looking in the shops and galleries for the corollary to the decorative facades that surrounded you. In London several places have ceramics, jewellery and metalwork; L'Odeon at 173 Fulham Road, John Jesse and Irma Leski at 160 Kensington Church Street and Fischer Fine Art at 30 King Street.

WW artefacts are no cheaper now than they were originally. Hoffmann metalwork varies from £250 up to £5,000 for his classic silver, decorated glass is between £300 and £1,200 and ceramics range from £350 to £1,500.

Isabelle Anscombe

Gardening

Cut-off points

My wife likes her cut flowers to last at least a week. Some do, some don't. Chrysanthemums certainly last much longer than dahlias, which normally are hard put to it to last from one Saturday to the next.

One can prolong the life of dahlias and most other cut flowers by putting a pinch of Phosphogen into the water or treating it with the Dutch preparation Chrysal, which growers, florists and most housewives use in Holland. My wife dips the ends of the dahlia stems in boiling water for five seconds and assures me they last longer for this treatment. Naturally, with these and other flowers she cuts for the house, she chooses those which are only about three quarters open.

But today there is considerable choice of varieties of both dahlias and chrysanthemums to grow for cutting. Dahlias produce three buds on a stem. Those who grow dahlias for exhibition remove the two side buds as soon as they are large enough to pick off, thus ensuring a better bloom from the top flower and a good long, clean stem.

This is fine for exhibitors. But many dahlia varieties produce quite a short central stem so that if you want to cut a bloom for a flower arrangement you have to sacrifice the two side buds, which from the gardener's point of view is sad because it greatly reduces the display in the garden.

But there are varieties which produce a central stem quite long enough for arranging the bloom in a bowl or vase either to enhance the garden or to provide more cut flowers; or perhaps to do a bit of both, one for the garden, one for the floral arrangement.

Mr R. Aylett, of Aylett's Nurseries, North Orbital Road, London Colney, St Albans, Herts, has given me a list of varieties that are not only suitable for the garden but also excellent for cutting. Incidentally, if you live within a reasonable distance of Aylett's nursery and can pick up your dahlia plants between April 20 and June 24 (not on Tuesdays) they will give you a discount of 30 per cent on orders of more than £5.00.

These varieties produce a long central stem, so you do not have to sacrifice the side buds. Favourites with the flower arrangers are the small decorative varieties. Within this section are the "water lily" varieties, which have fewer petals but which curve inward gracefully to resemble a water lily, and the small and some medium cactus or semi-cactus varieties. My favourites are the water lily varieties—"Autumn Lustre", reddish orange, "Gloria van Hemstede", yellow, "Hugh Mother", orange amber, and "Susannah York", pink.

Of other dual purpose small decorative varieties there are

"Ernest Pitt", salmon with a yellow base, "Gay Princess", lilac pink and very tall, "John Street", red, and "Missill Delight", white, a miniature bloom under four inches.

Among the "cut and come again" semi-cactus varieties we have "Beauty of Aalsmeer", deep salmon, and "Pink Symbol", with medium sized blooms; in the small flowered class "Happy Birthday", in shades of apricot, "Dad's Choice", lemon yellow, "September Moon", bronze, and "White Klankstad".

Aylett is also offering three new varieties raised by John Crumpton, a noted breeder of new dahlias, which come within our dual purpose category and have won trial awards. These are the small decorative "Joyce Voller", peach, suffruted rosy vermillion with twisted flowers; "Peggy Hall", water lily type pink and rosy carmine, and "Satsuma", a miniature decorative orange vermillion, tipped and edged with gold.

Before the war outdoor chrysanthemums were spray types and nobody thought about disbudding the stems to produce large flowers such as were grown in greenhouses for the late autumn chrysanthemum shows. After the war came the lovely modern outdoor varieties which, disbudded and cosseted, will make flowers up to 8in across.

So shows of the early flowering outdoor varieties have proliferated in the past 30 years. True, these varieties can be protected by unheated plastic structures and, with the ever increasing cost of fuel, perhaps the late flowering chrysanthemums will gradually disappear in favour of the outdoor varieties. Indeed when I saw our electricity bill for the last quarter I wondered if the heated greenhouse will soon be a thing of the past.

But to return to our question of dual purpose varieties—

Roy Hay



Chess

Crown Princely play

"To be direct and honest is not safe." You might think I am quoting from *Othello* and technically you are right. But I really meant to be quoting from Aron Nimzowitsch, whose writing Shakespeare often pre-echoes by some 300 years. It is either that or that Nimzowitsch finds he is compelled to use fanciful Elizabethan and Jacobean language to express his equally fanciful and paradoxical ideas. After all, Nimzowitsch's striking remark about the pawn's just to expand could easily come from *Othello* or from *The White Devil* to give, appropriately enough from the chess point of view, one black and one white.

By my quotation the Crown Prince of the chess world would have meant that the only right way of position play lay in the indirect and the oblique. Tarrasch's logical, straightforward play was anathema to him. It was only deceptively safe.

My reference to the Crown Prince needs a little explanation. It is a good example of Nimzowitsch's colourful and almost tripartite behaviour. When he was at the height of his powers, a little more than 50 years ago, he carried visiting cards on which was inscribed "Aron Nimzowitsch, Crown Prince of the Chess World". This meant that while he was not world champion he was at any rate either next best or the clear inheritor of the title. This

was rather outrageous since at that period both Alekhine and Capablanca were in active play.

The controversy between Tarrasch and Nimzowitsch and the latter's bizarre and eccentric behaviour was well illustrated by a pleasant piece of fantasy that appeared in the 1939 *British Chess Magazine*. It was written by the Dutch chessmaster Lodewijk Prins, himself not unlike the Latvian genius in both style of play and eccentric behaviour. Lodewijk, for instance, is the only person I know who had a motorcar accident inside a garage the size of a bungalow. I was in the car at the time and even then I had the impression that he put most of the blame on Tarrasch.

Well, in his piece in the *BCM* Prins says he entered a room when a round of the great *Spirits* tournament was just over. He saw Steinitz first of all and then "A few tables farther on Tarrasch, engaged in an interesting conversation with Nimzowitsch and Reti, is claiming, not without conviction, that in his *Three Hundred games* any chess player's ideas are included. Nimzowitsch now and then stands on his hands. When Reti wants to protest violently, however, the other two leave indignantly to be competent to discuss with them one ought to have been candidate for the world's championship at least!"

It is nice to know that in after-life Nimzowitsch became sufficiently reconciled to Tarrasch to indulge in interesting conversation with him. One wonders where these chessmasters actually were: Heaven or Hell or just Earth?

An authentic touch, despite or perhaps because of its upside-down nature, was that about Nimzowitsch standing on his hands. To the chess world, Viktor Korchnoi doing exactly that in the Philippines in 1978 that might seem nothing unusual; but in those days, 1939, it was regarded as eccentric. Some refreshingly such eccentricity and point out with some truth that Tarrasch and his ideas were on the whole superior to Nimzowitsch and his.

But the chess world would have seemed an arid place without the great Nimzowitsch and it owes an enormous debt to him for the best, colour and humour he brought to the game. He has had an immense influence on the theory and practice of chess, in particular on openings and the middle game and there has been nobody quite like him since. Nevertheless, other players have displayed their own colourful eccentricity. In Russia, for instance, there was Vladimir Smagin and in Denmark there is the distinguished grandmaster Bent Larsen, who may not be the Crown Prince of the chess world but is certainly a prince of the chess world. In England we have our own deputy-Nimzowitsch in Michael Basman whose origi-

inality so impressed Botvinnik at Hastings. I should add that Larsen and the other two I have mentioned are not slavish imitators of Nimzowitsch. Each had his own peculiar brand of humour and his own original ideas. But all tend to concentrate on the openings and insist in thinking for themselves without paying too much attention to precedents.

Naturally such procedures result in a variability of success and failure. Larsen has had many great tournament successes and some absolute failures. He was bottom in the 1980 IBM tournament but first in the Clarin tournament at Buenos Aires that year. All the time he was playing amusing and witty chess. Typical is the following game from the IBM tournament.

White B. Larsen; Black J. C. Van der Wiel, English Opening.

1. N-Q3, P-B4; 2. N-Q3, P-B4; 3. N-Q3, P-B4; 4. N-Q3, P-B4; 5. N-Q3, P-B4; 6. N-Q3, P-B4; 7. P-B4, P-B4; 8. P-B4, P-B4; 9. P-B4, P-B4; 10. P-B4, P-B4; 11. P-B4, P-B4; 12. P-B4, P-B4; 13. P-B4, P-B4; 14. P-B4, P-B4; 15. P-B4, P-B4; 16. P-B4, P-B4; 17. P-B4, P-B4; 18. P-B4, P-B4; 19. P-B4, P-B4; 20. P-B4, P-B4; 21. P-B4, P-B4; 22. P-B4, P-B4; 23. P-B4, P-B4; 24. P-B4, P-B4; 25. P-B4, P-B4; 26. P-B4, P-B4; 27. P-B4, P-B4; 28. P-B4, P-B4; 29. P-B4, P-B4; 30. P-B4, P-B4; 31. P-B4, P-B4; 32. P-B4, P-B4; 33. P-B4, P-B4; 34. P-B4, P-B4; 35. P-B4, P-B4; 36. P-B4, P-B4; 37. P-B4, P-B4; 38. P-B4, P-B4; 39. P-B4, P-B4; 40. P-B4, P-B4; 41. P-B4, P-B4; 42. P-B4, P-B4; 43. P-B4, P-B4; 44. P-B4, P-B4; 45. P-B4, P-B4; 46. P-B4, P-B4; 47. P-B4, P-B4; 48. P-B4, P-B4; 49. P-B4, P-B4; 50. P-B4, P-B4; 51. P-B4, P-B4; 52. P-B4, P-B4; 53. P-B4, P-B4; 54. P-B4, P-B4; 55. P-B4, P-B4; 56. P-B4, P-B4; 57. P-B4, P-B4; 58. P-B4, P-B4; 59. P-B4, P-B4; 60. P-B4, P-B4; 61. P-B4, P-B4; 62. P-B4, P-B4; 63. 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Drink Alluring subtlety

The first wine vines were planted in New Zealand in 1819 and James Busby had a vineyard in production by 1830. But other crops in this fertile land yielded quicker returns, so farmers tended to make wine solely for their personal use. Wine both as a commercial and quality product became important only recently.

Traditions were established, however, and many immigrants, notably the "Dallies" (Yugoslavs, whose names are often seen on today's labels), kept wine making alive, but in 1923 there were a mere 55 acres under vines. By 1980, however, there were about 10,000 acres, producing around 8,000 gallons. Half of this is table wine instead of the high-strength dessert wines previously demanded.

In the past five years, wine production has progressed enormously. The emphasis today, in spite of the "bag wines" which are the bread and butter of the local trade, is on quality; the annual wine competitions are a stimulus. The public, with the first licensed restaurant dating only from 1961, are already fairly wine conscious.

New Zealand wines are individual. The climate is temperate and most of the vineyards are in the North Island (although Montana have their "Marlborough" vineyards on the tip of the South Island) and the presence everywhere of water — the bays that encroach on the indented land, the streams and lakes that make the hinterland lush, the ever-changing cloudscapes, evoke the freshness, the muted but definite appeal of the wines of this country. They are wines for the drinker who seeks allure plus subtlety.

Many classic grapes are cultivated and some interesting experiments are going on. Mission (established in 1851) recently showed me a "white Cabernet" and "white Pinot". Nobilo have a range of maceration carbonic wines; Cook's are producing Pinot Meunier and Pinot Gris. The inexpensive wines of course are blends and most of the whites are made by "back blending", which means they will have had the addition of unfermented must, in what in Germany would be termed *süss reserve*. Estate wines, as the term is understood in Europe, do not yet exist but wines from different regions display marked variations in character.

British retailers have found, even within a few months, that in the middle price ranges it is the quality as well as the novelty of the New Zealand wines that brings customers back. Suppliers, therefore, rather depend on when consignments arrive. At present Victoria Wine branches stock Montana's Marlborough Syv-

aner Riesling 1980, very fragrant with a four-square flavour and fresh follow-up (£3.54); they also have Montana's Marlborough Cabernet Sauvignon 1977, deep in tone, with a crisp bouquet, trim in character (£3.64). The Montana style is clear-cut and definite.

Peter Dominic, at their branch at 2 Orange Street, SW1, have Cook's Golden Chasselas 1978, a buxom, mouth-filling white (£3.42), and Babich's 1978 Riesling Sylvaner from Henderson and Gisborne (£3.42). The use of the word "Riesling" in New Zealand, usually means that the Riesling Sylvaner cross which Europeans know as the Müller Thurgau is used; this wine is a lively, assertive drink, capable of cutting through fatty sauces and even mayonnaise.

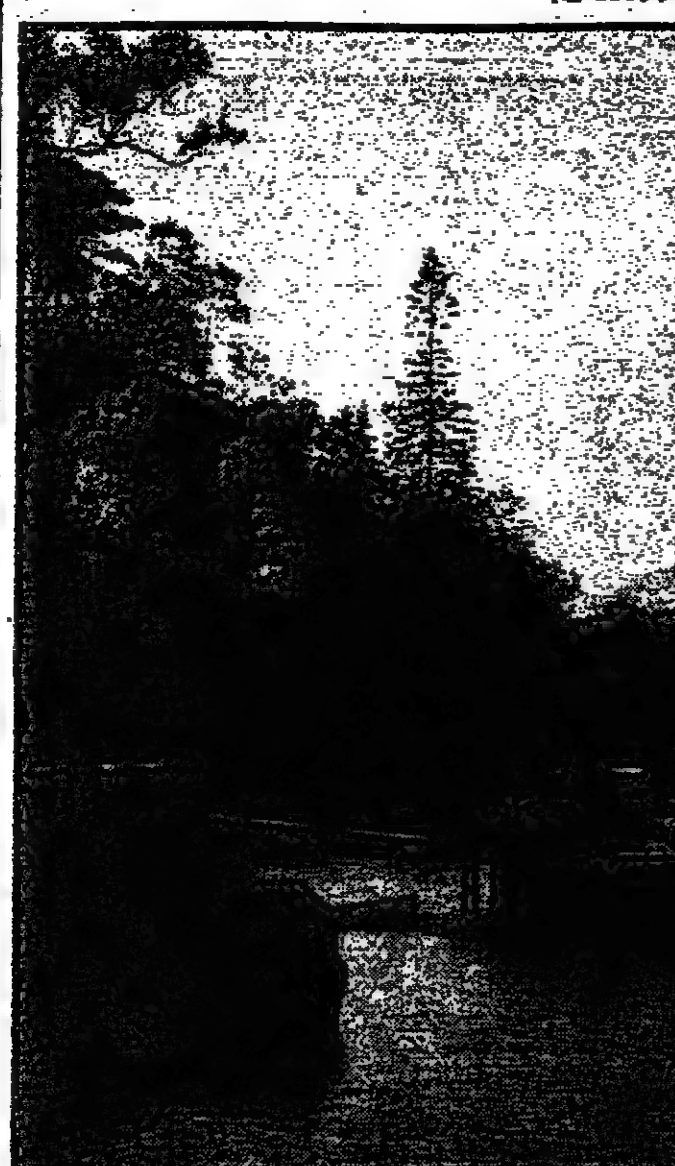
Peter Dominic also stock the Marlborough Riesling Sylvaner. The major source of supply in Britain, however, is Avery's, Park Street, Bristol, and John Avery, MW, who has judged the New Zealand wine competitions, now lists 16 Avery's have McWilliam's white Cresta Doré (£3), agreeable at any time, also Corban's Benderson Chénin Blanc, trim, pleasing (£3.12) and the Matawhara Gewurztraminer, a gold medal winner from a dedicated small-scale producer, which is aromatic, long and alluring (£4.50).

An interesting comparison might be made of the Cook's Fernhill and Te Kauwhata Rieslings (both £3.20 from Avery's) of 1978; they would be a pair to appraise alongside a grill of fine fish. The Te Kauwhata is crisp, assertive, zippy; the Fernhill sunny, fatter, mouth-filling.

Among the New Zealand reds, Avery's list McWilliam's Hawkes Bay Cabernet Sauvignon 1976, a finely balanced wine, far from its prime (£4.65). They also have the Hupai Valley Pinotage from Nobilo; this firm actually crush the grapes in the vineyard, alongside the mechanical harvester; their Chardonnay is of a quality that visitors should sample. It makes many New Zealanders look definitely inferior. The Pinotage is a gutsy wine (the grape was evolved from the Pinot Noir and Cinsaut), and this example hardly resembles any South African pinotage, having a more fine-drawn style (£3.55).

Avery's latest list, from Cook's "Classic Collection", the 1977 Cabernet Sauvignon. This has a very fresh, leafy bouquet, full flavour and fruit after-taste, a wine that is beginning to show the discursive or cerebral quality that may make New Zealand reds worthy of any decanter in the future. Open it, like the other Cabernets and the Pinotage, an hour or more before serving (£3.40).

Pamela Vandyke Price



A lake steamer at the Trossachs pier on Loch Katrine

One of the things I like about Star Trek is the way its makers have decided that even in the distant future the Scot will retain his traditional role as the ship's engineer. It is well known, or at least used to be, that one could yell "Hey, Mac" in any ship's engine room anywhere on the face of the sea, and somebody would answer. So from "I cannot get another ounce of steam frae her, she'll burst her boilers" to "Cap'n Kirk, the dyedrum crystal synchronizer will radiate beyond warp factor three" is but a small step for a scriptwriter.

This thought, and others like it, milled around like the drifting steam when I stood recently on the deck of the SS Sir Walter Scott as she prepared to leave the jetty at Stranraer and head for Loch Katrine. From the engine room came the hissing and juddering and clanking sounds one associates with a vessel of her age and type. They merged with the smell of oil, the gleam of brass and the heavily accented comments of the two gentlemen down below who were preparing the ship for her return journey to the Trossachs pier.

The Strathclyde Water De-

partment has been running regular trips on the loch for many years, and they provide visitors with something to do between early May and the end of September. Ideal when the weather is fine, but even on such a day as I experienced, with mist and fine rain, the loch and the land around it has a brooding beauty.

That the steamer should be named after Scott is appropriate. Rob Roy MacGregor, whom he immortalized in his classic novel, was born in a house on its shores, and Loch Katrine is the setting for Scott's *Lady of the Lake*.

I was there because that region which lies to the west of Callander is the heart of the Trossachs and my journey to Scotland had been made with the purpose of exploring and to some extent discovering that bristly country — which is more or less how the Gaelic translates.

Callander was my base — of which more in a moment — and the cruise on Loch Katrine one of many day excursions I made during my time there. I went expecting to find beautiful scenery and was not disappointed. What I did not expect was the tremendous range of

things to do and places to see, nor the warmth of Scottish hospitality. At times it was overwhelming.

Roughly, the Trossachs lie in the area bounded by Loch Earn in the north, the Lake of Menteith in the south, the town of Doune and its castle to the east and the shores — the "bonnie banks" — of Loch Lomond to the west. On the latter the Maid of the Loch, the last paddle steamer built in Britain, cruises every day from the latter part of May until the end of August.

I had hired a car to make my travels that much easier but discovered that a system of local buses, including the post bus service, links many of the tourist locations at reasonable charges.

Having sampled the steamer, I remained as it were water-bound by visiting Loch Earn and the busy water sports centre at Lochearnhead.

It is an excellent location for anyone who seeks a holiday of the busier sort. The centre itself offers five-day dinghy sailing courses, to standards approved by the Royal Yachting Association and the Scottish Sports Councils as well as canoeing, board sailing, water

skiing and fishing. An inclusive holiday is offered in conjunction with the nearby hotel. It is also possible to enjoy riding and indeed these activities are available at a number of Trossachs locations.

During one trip to the Queen Elizabeth Forest Park, which lies between Loch Lomond and Aberfoyle, I met a number of youngsters on a pony trekking holiday. They were staying in local guest houses and going each day to Aberfoyle Stables, where Hugh MacGregor operates a busy trekking centre. It is possible to hire by the day or half day or, as with the Water Sports Centre at Lochearnhead, to base a complete trekking holiday on local accommodation, hotel or guest house.

The guest houses are good value for money and I know that many visitors to Scotland make full use of them, often relying on local tourist information offices to fix them, up with accommodation. There are good ones in and near Callander, although the town boasts a number of hotels, of which the Roman Camp merits a mention. Though the current Michelin guide rates it as merely "comfortable" I think after my

brief visit that deserves a higher rating.

Of the guest houses, incidentally, the best known is probably Arden House, known to literally millions of people who may never have set foot in Callander. Viewers of the television programme *Doctor Finlay's Casebook* will recognize Callander as Tan-mochbrae and will not need telling that Arden House is where the doctor lived.

My various travels in the Trossachs took me to the Lake of Menteith, the ruins of Inchmahome Priory standing on one of its islands, and to Doune Castle, which is regarded as one of the best preserved examples of fourteenth-century domestic architecture in Scotland. Undoubtedly impressive, as is the collection of racing and other cars in the motor museum there. Castles and museums provide an amazing contrast, but by this time I had become used to the surprises that the Trossachs hold in store.

If all you seek is a relaxed holiday in fine countryside you will certainly find it there, although the unpredictable weather has to be taken into account. On the other hand, a holiday with a special interest

of a purpose may be enjoyed. To quote one tourist brochure: "Along the edge of the Highlands, Rob Roy MacGregor lived out a life of adventure. Robert the Bruce, Mary Queen of Scots, the Stuart Kings of Scotland are just some of the historic figures associated with this fascinating area."

The address of the Lochearnhead Water Sports Centre is simply: Lochearnhead, Perthshire, Scotland. They will supply details of the facilities and organized holidays available. For more information about the pony trekking centre at Aberfoyle, write to Hugh MacGregor and Son, Ballingroan, Thornhill, Stirling, Scotland. The Trossachs Tourist Association will be able to supply a great deal of general information, accommodation details, etc if you write to them at Old Burgh Chambers, Callander, Perthshire, FK17 8BN, enclosing a large self-addressed envelope and 20p in stamps.

The two major guidebooks to Scotland are Benn's Blue Guide at £12.95 and Ward Lock's Red Guide at £6.95. Both are hard cover and both were revised and reissued last year.

John Carter

Travel Extra

No changes at Baja

It's not for the faint of heart, the tender stomach or the British visitor expecting air conditioning, heated swimming pools and American style sterility. But if you are none of these Baja, California, may be the last truly unspoiled paradise on the North American continent.

Baja, or lower California, despite some popular misconceptions even in the USA, is of course not part of the United States. It is Mexico's primitive Mexico at that. For years it lay isolated from both mainland Mexico and its wealthy neighbour to the north, rural and deserted. Only the pioneers and the wealthy ventured down its just over 1,000 mile length; the former in four-wheel drive vehicles, with extra petrol, water, medical supplies and prayers as their travelling companion, the latter in private planes, landing precipitously in dry lake beds and firm beaches. All that changed seven years ago with the coming of "The Road". Actually Baja Highway One, which begins just south of Ensenada (some 60 easy miles from the San Diego border) and ends where the Pacific meets the Sea of Cortez at Cabo San Lucas.

Environmentalists and Baja lovers bemoan the loss of civilization to the peninsula and swore the place would never be the same. I was among them. I was wrong.

Nothing has changed in Baja; it was, is and always will be its own place. It has always appealed to a special kind of traveller and it therefore has avoided the invasion of noisy gringos that some people feared would troop over the border as soon as the road opened. The Mexican government has done its best to turn Baja into a tourist mecca. They built half a dozen modern 11 Presidente hotels along the road as well as a fleet of government-sponsored snack bars and gas stations, but the vast reaches of the Vizcaino Desert lie untouched by it all, the white sands of Bahía de la Concepción are still lapped by the turquoise waters of the bay without a MacDonald's or a Colonel Kentucky in sight.

The reasons why the ravages of tourism have not destroyed Baja are varied. First and most



Baja, resisting the ravages of tourism by various means...

obviously, the last two winters washed out large sections of the northern part of Highway One with the result that there are in some places more desert than road. The road is a tough and hazardous drive. (Those more enterprising drivers have beaten the odds by driving down the West Coast of mainland Mexico and taking one of the several car ferries in operation over to southern Baja where road conditions are much better.)

Secondly, the hastily constructed government hotels had multiple problems ranging from the serious plumbing and sewage to the frivolous and no heating in the pool. This deterred a few less hardy souls. But third and most important, Baja simply did not appeal to the disco, nightclubbing set who may have tried it once but quickly abandoned it for Acapulco and Puerto Vallarta where the action was.

Next year the government plans to build a new airport in the Loreto-Mulege area large enough to accommodate commercial jets. There is already such an airport at the peninsula's largest city La Paz serving Cabo San Lucas, which was a busy tourist area even before the road.

Meanwhile for those brave enough to tackle the drive all the way down the rewards are many. It's an ever-changing scene starting along the rugged Pacific Coast, it winds its way through the seemingly endless Vizcaino Desert with enormous cacti and its huge boulders. It looks like a moonscape and is both eerie and beautiful. In the midst of it is Guerrero Negro, home of the world's largest solar salt plant. From Guerrero overland trips can be made in four wheel drive vehicles to Scammon's Lagoon, spawning ground of the gray whale and Malarino Beach the world's finest beachcombers' paradise.

At the end of the desert comes a reward and you're more than ready for it. The tranquil date palm oases of San Ignacio with its unique 16th century Spanish mission and Mulege a town like no other set on its river in its date forest, an Amazon in miniature.

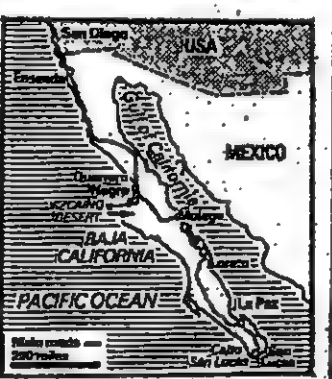
Thence the road crosses to the gulf side, round a corner and there is Bahia Concepcion and you might be in the Caribbean except there are no crowds to share the white beaches with you and no one to get in the way of your fins as you snorkel through an exotic aquarium of purple, yellow, red and lavender fish.

For the next 28 miles the road goes along the bay shore thence to Loreto, sight of the oldest Spanish mission in California. And then to La Paz, fishing port through the ages. It now provides great duty free shopping and jets fly in daily with tourists from all over the world.

From La Paz it's a two and a half hour drive to Cabo San Lucas where the two great seas meet at Finisterra, land's end. They are building condominiums and luxury resorts complete with a golf course there now, but there are currently 11 hotels with 520 rooms, making this the most comfortable place to stay in Baja.

By 1990 the government will open 15 more hotels with approximately 3,000 rooms. If you've driven all the way down you deserve a touch of luxury and beauty Cabo will provide. But you will realize that you've just taken a route that provides just about the most varied scenery in the world. You have had something that those who travel only with minute to minute itineraries and American Express travellers checks will never experience. But to be practical there are a few precautions you must take.

1. Get a current state of the road report from the very efficient and informative Auto-



mobile Club of Southern California who provide several invaluable guidebooks to Baja. They even send out a monthly newsletter which provides information on — for example — the current gas situation (there's a present shortage of unleaded fuel in Baja) and which trailer parks are open at which time of year.

2. Travel before the winter rains, fall is best, summer is too hot in Southern Baja, you actually cross the Tropic of Cancer, south of La Paz.

3. Take four days minimum to drive from Tijuana to the border. You can do it in two but if you take your time it's more rewarding and a heck of a lot safer.

4. Never drive the Baja by night. Animals, four legged and human sleep along and across it. Beware.

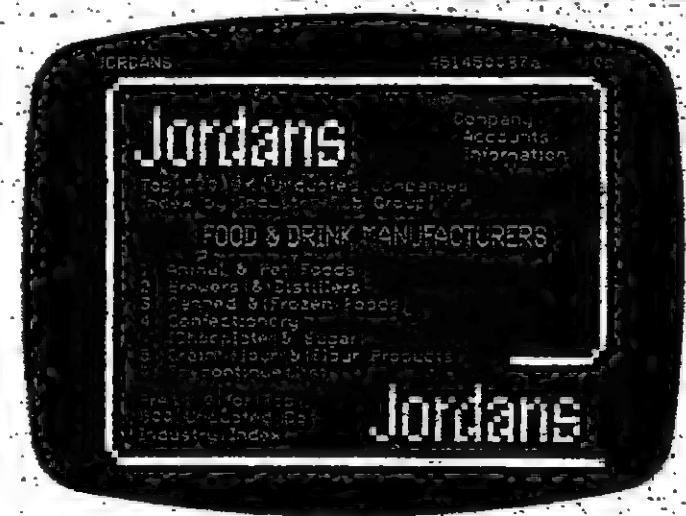
5. If you want to camp — and many do — stay in approved camp grounds only with other people. There are bandits in Baja and they are armed. But they are looking for isolated campers on lonely beaches.

6. If you are still worried about the drive, fly down or take the ferry from the mainland, bypassing the southern part of the road where the problems are. Hotels range from the "three diamond" AA approved, to the strictly fishing nets on the wall and sawdust on the floor atmosphere places much beloved of the serious American deep sea fishermen who has been coming down since he could cast a line. Where you stay depends on your budget and your tolerance for local colour.

One thing is certain: Wherever you stay, whatever you do be it snorkelling, fishing, sunbathing or shopping, be prepared to become a lifetime Baja buff. Once you have been you will want to do it again and again and there will be something new every time.

Ivor Davis

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People and monuments in one of ancient Greece's most sacred sites are threatened by industrial pollution

What progress has done to the glory of Eleusis

Letter from Greece.

Eleusis, one of the most revered sanctuaries of ancient Greece, is fighting a losing battle against industrial pollution which is eroding its marble monuments, damaging the health of its 30,000 inhabitants and making it uglier by the year.

"Our mortality rate," Dr Michael Leventis, the town's over-50s councillor, says, "is now 50 per cent above the Athens rate. There are more abortions and more deformed babies born here than ever before. Pollution is affecting heredity."

Dr Leventis has launched an international appeal for the salvation of Eleusis, which was sacred to the ancient Greeks and the Romans for more than 1,000 years. The response has been encouraging. Of the 170 personalities who have endorsed the appeal, at least 50 are British scholars and intellectuals.

Surrounded by towering factory chimneys stand the relics of the glory that was Eleusis—once the centre of the secret religious cult known as the Eleusinian Mysteries.

Archaeologists (including the London Society of the Dilettanti in 1812) uncovered the greater part of the sanctuary dedicated to Demeter and her young daughter, Persephone. For 2,000 years the precinct of this site had been hallowed to the uninited on penalty of death.

Today this cultural heritage is in grave danger of destruction. The Greek archaeologist in charge of the site told me: "The waste from the neighbouring cement factory has deposited a hard crust on the

monuments that cannot be removed without damaging the ancient stone. Last November a congress of Greek archaeologists deplored the "unprecedented lack of respect towards man and monuments" in the area and passed a resolution supporting the mayor's plea for a halt to further industrialization.

The curse of Eleusis, is that in modern times it forsook the gifts of its ancient patron, Demeter, the goddess of agriculture, in favour of industrialization. Three out of four working Eleusinians are employed in local industry.

The result was that the area, conveniently located 16 miles west of Athens, became the capital's dump for heavy industry. Today it is the home of two blast furnaces, two steel mills, three cement plants, two oil refineries, two shipyards, two wine factories and scores of other industries.

Mr George Abazoglou, a scientist who made a special survey of marine pollution in the Gulf of Eleusis, told me that one steel mill alone discharged daily 390,000 tons of effluents, including 150 tons of solid waste, 1,140 tons of other pollutants and four tons of toxic matter.

"The content of zinc, copper, lead and other toxic minerals in the gulf," he said, "is between 18 and 209 times the danger level accepted internationally. This is in flagrant violation of the Barcelona Convention of 1976 for the protection of the Mediterranean."

Dr Leventis said: "The Gulf of Eleusis was once famous because the naval battle of Salamis against the Persians was fought here in 480 BC. Today it is just a murky swamp where it is dangerous to swim or fish."

The problem of industrial pollution, both in the air and the sea, has become so acute that the director of public prosecutions has opened a preliminary inquiry into 12 industries suspected of flouting systematically even the inadequate anti-pollution regulations now in force.

The mayor has testified that, according to the local health service, morbidity among Eleusis people is 50 per cent higher than in Athens, hardly one of the healthiest areas of Greece.

"The incidence of respiratory diseases, compared to rural districts, is double for adults and sevenfold for children," he said.

Dr Kyriakos Sassinis, the resident obstetrician, testified that between 1963 and 1970, 14 of every 1,000 newborn babies in Eleusis had some deformity. Between 1970 and 1977 this rate had risen to 20 in 1,000.

Dr Leventis has joined forces with the mayors of three neighbouring towns also afflicted by pollution to have the area, known in antiquity as the Thracian Plain, declared saturated for industry.

"There are about 800 industrial establishments in this plain," he said. "We are asking for the transfer of 15 or

20 that cause the worst pollution."

He was particularly concerned about an explosives factory because an oil refinery has been built next to it. Last December part of the factory blew up. There were no casualties, but it could have been a catastrophe.

Mr Stefanos Manos, the Minister of Industry, told me that his ministry was no longer issuing licences for new industries in Eleusis and that efforts were being made to compel the existing factories to install pollution-control equipment.

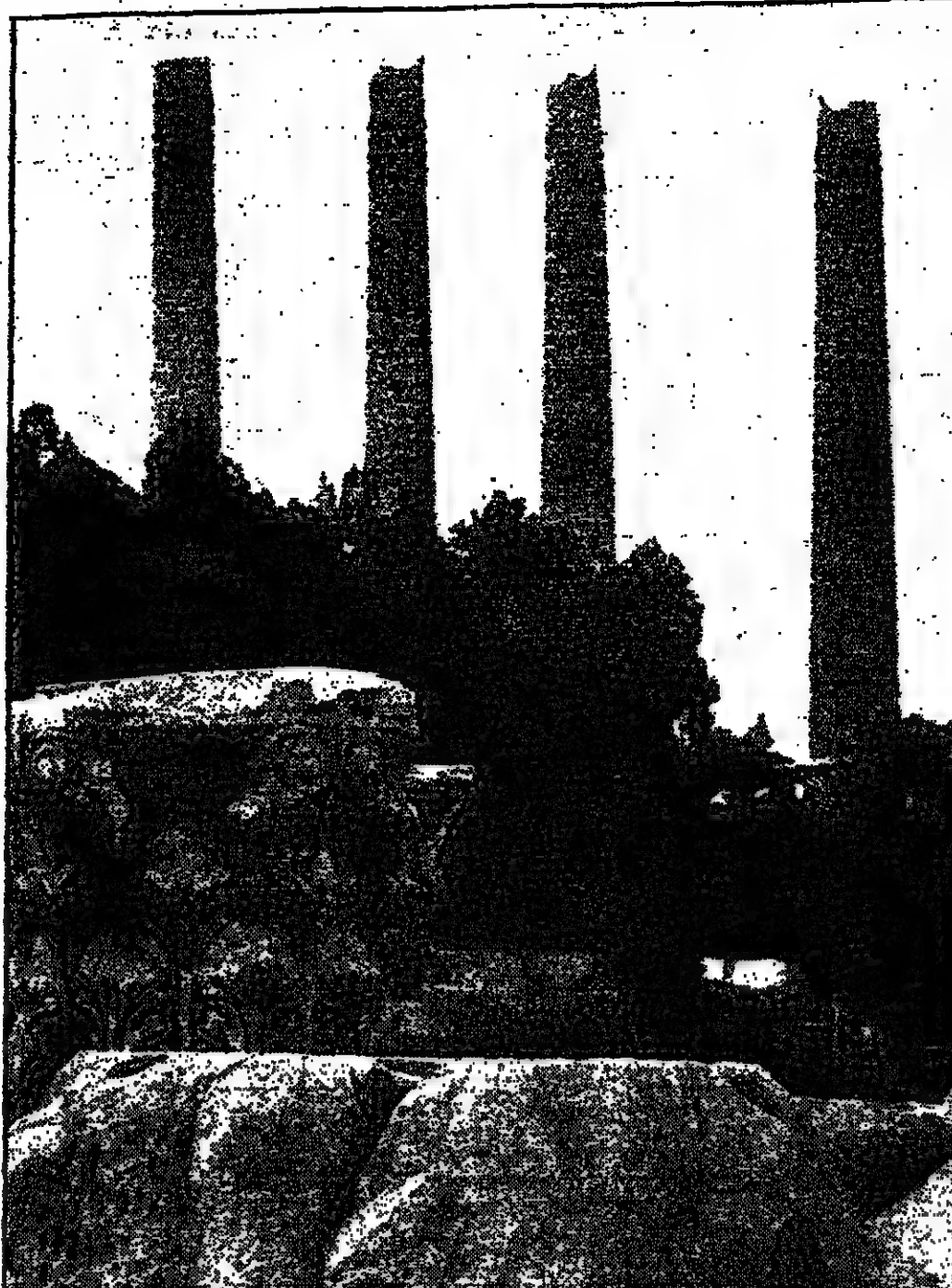
The truth is that the Greek Government, concerned by the current dearth of industrial investment, does not want to push the industrialists harder. It is trying to protect the environment by offering tax and loan incentives to induce industries to buy pollution filters.

The estimated cost of anti-pollution equipment is put at about £8m.

A bill on the protection of the environment has been languishing in Parliament for nearly four years. Dr Leventis says some invisible hand seems to be holding it back.

The mayor's appeal for the salvation of Eleusis concluded on a challenging, if not hopeful, note. It said: "The salvation of Eleusis is a duty for every civilized person. These antiquities are part of the world's cultural heritage. We must prove that contemporary men can impose respect for his values."

Mario Modiano



Cement factory chimneys overshadowing antiquities at Eleusis.

The small lesson for big business

Ernst Schumacher's legacy to the world was a warning that it was heading in the wrong direction: towards wasteful expenditure of energy and resources, away from the skills and technology more appropriate to modern needs. The philosophy of his movement, the International Technology Development Group, is now conventional wisdom in Third World economics. On Monday, Prince

On Monday, Prince Charles, his patron, is to attend a seminar convened to discuss ways in which this commitment to smaller, more relevant technologies, allied to small businesses, can be made fashionable in Britain.

The organizers, the new Schumacher Centre for Technology Choice, sense support among political parties: the Labour Party, through its interests in developing countries; the Conservatives, for their championing of small businesses; and the Council for Social Democracy through Mr Shirley Williams, who is a known follower. It is whether they can interest big businesses and big money beyond a token engagement that matters in the long run.

The last few years have seen a decided growth in locally based, low energy schemes using the resources, skills and technology available in their area. Alongside these have appeared bodies to advise them, often sponsored by large local employers. Aid to Bristol Enterprises, started by the Imperial Group and run under the aegis of the Chamber of Commerce, is one example. In the first 13 months of its existence, one man has handled 165 inquiries.

He has told a would-be assembler of hang glider kits of possible premises for a workshop; given a man who wants to start producing cakes from a Canadian farmhouse recipe a list of bakers in the area; put a mother and son team of jewellers in touch with a wholesale supplier of earrings and ring blanks; arranged for an expanding family firm that modifies Range Rovers to go on a highly successful mission to the Middle East.

The examples are important because they point to what many industrialists now consider to be the flaw in the small business low technology argument: that it resides only in the periphery of economics. "Everyone is now looking kindly on such schemes," said the secretary of a trust long involved with local enterprise. "But they are not mainstream. People see them as a mixture between charity and social experiment. Nothing to do with balance sheets and shareholders."

For the sponsoring companies the attraction of supporting small businesses in this way—making available consultant experts in marketing and production—is obvious. "At no cost to themselves," as one man put it, "they are salvaging their consciences about redundancy." Interestingly, Aid to Bristol Enterprises admitted that they had not even begun to tap the kind of expertise and facilities they could have access to through their sponsors: no one had asked for them.

For individuals seeking advice the value of the service is more doubtful. Mr John Davis of Appropriate Technology UK believes that because people today feel more helpless than at any other time in recent history his role and that of people like him is to instill hope and enthusiasm, as well as make people realize that it is no longer enough to rely on money to get things done.

Some of those who approach the advisory groups are indeed satisfied with the help they get. They go away better informed about the mechanics of starting up a small business, more wary about overextending themselves, forewarned about cash flows and sales outlets. But many come for cash, and a more lasting financial backing, and this they rarely get. For them, hope and enthusiasm are not enough.

From a feeling that Schumacher's words have not yet been applied effectively in the developed countries has come concern, among some industrialists, that the path now taken by the movement is the wrong one. It is by attaching all this importance to advice, very little is actually done for small businesses: unfortunately it is enough to deflect attention from the vital issues of future employment, energy and resources.

"There is always a danger of the placebo effect," the same trust secretary said. "Occasions like the meeting on Monday are no substitute for putting an effort where it is really needed: in the complex corner occupied by big business."

Only by approaching the problem more ambitiously, concentrating not on finding premises for glass blowers but carrying out research into still neglected fields of alternative energy, technology choice and truly durable durables, can the movement in fact now move to the centre.

Houses can be effectively insulated; it costs more, but the cost can be passed on to the buyer, who also recovers the extra money in his savings on energy. Cars, plainly, can be constructed to last; solar energy can be harnessed. It is how to convince big businesses of the relevance, to them, of such facts that is now said to be the more important question.

David Hewson

Caroline Moorehead

Watch out for freak political weather ahead

Counting chickens or cowering before the next blow are afflictions of political unpredictability. This week has shown why. Some ministers wince and shudder when asked the next surprise up the Government's sleeve. They may have been thinking of the International Computers rescue operation. Liberals and Social Democrats, in the run-up to next Thursday's party launching, have been cautioning themselves against expecting the major parties to go on heaping gifts on them. They know their luck cannot last.

Individuals have a knack of getting in the way. Mr Christopher Brocklebank-Fowler's defection to the Social Democrats was more annoying to the Conservative hierarchy than they admit. Where one has led, it is easier to follow. But by the end of the week it was a better question whether more damage had been done by the Tories by another maverick MP. No one could have been cautions reckoned with Mr Geoffrey Dickens, Tory Party managers, looking back, were apt to see him as a loose cannonball who smashed vital parts of the Tory gundek. To be a moral crusader is one thing; it can be good populist politics to stir the righteous against the obscene. Mrs Thatcher, after all, recommended Mrs Whitehouse for her CBE.

But to arouse such emotions only to dash them with "this skeleton in the cupboard"—as Mr Dickens termed leaving his wife for his mistress—well, that is asking for trouble. To do all that, and leave behind the rain of an alleged cover-up by Mrs Thatcher's ministers, is to get the party hit from all directions at once. Much though snobbish Tories sniff privately that Mr Dickens is not really one of them, it is far from clear that he has cancelled himself out. If anything, he may have redoubled the reaction. For he has struck several popular chords—disgust with sexual deviation, distrust of the self-proclaimed establishment, and disillusionment with politicians.

It could be that the public will treat it all as a passing aberration. After all, American voters were not put off Mr Reagan last November when one of the most ardent "moral majority" Republican crusaders confessed, on television, that he had been picking up young men in his car for homosexual practices.

But in this age of television politics, Tories must still have been grateful that neither the BBC nor ITN put out the full version of Mr Dickens' news conference.

It happens that cameras are allowed into the Westminster corridors for this kind of news conference. And no written report can match the immediacy of a politician announcing to the world that he has decided to leave his wife, but will reporters hold back until he telephones to tell her. Few American politicians or soap operas could have dared to use the cameras in this way. It was a British "first".

Playing to the cameras

Contrary to a common belief, I think that newspaper journalists have nothing to fear from a greater televising of politics. Their writing of the incredible would be reinforced. Public appreciation of political undercurrents would be heightened by the televising of Parliament and, more modestly, by the "barnyard noises" so deprecated in radio broadcasts from Westminster.

Let us accept the prospect that MPs would play to the cameras. They would soon tire of that, and anyway, we would soon realize what they were up to. They could hardly be more theatrical on camera than

they are among themselves already. Examples of the past week will suffice.

First was the crossing of the floor by Mr Brocklebank-Fowler. At its outset this was not a particularly flamboyant action. Most observers afterwards said they had thought he was merely walking out of the chamber after finishing his speech. The drama came as Social Democrats and even Labour left-wingers shook him by the hand as he went straight for the place now contested between Social Democrats and Tribunes. Tory backbenchers laughed derisively and nervously, although the effort was laud and too insistent for mere hilarity. Simply writing it down cannot convey the moment.

The other example occurred just before dawn. Again, reporting needs supplementing to convey the reception to those same Tory backbenchers to Mr Enoch Powell's speech in Monday's Budget debate.

He will probably not thank me for saying that his speech was every November's mini-Budget was the more memorable. A lone voice, he had then used some remarkable "illustrative" figures. He said that for the Government honestly to finance that which the country "was bound to spend, and overwhelmingly,

"ought to spend" the Chancellor must raise extra revenue of £5-6,000m on top of the £2,000m extra taxes then proposed. In a world where predictions fall short, Mr Powell was very close indeed.

But last Monday was different. Unlike most other speakers, he concentrated his fire on Labour's proposed reflation, doing them the honour of taking them seriously, the possible alternative government. He warned that Mr Shore's proposals would pile unemployment on unemployment. The Tories cheered as they cheered no one else on their own side—not even the Prime Minister during question time—during the Budget debate.

The eclipse of Mr Powell

For reasons of space, Mr Powell was not reported in our debate pages. He can be read in Hansard. But what needs to be available is a television clip of him, his heady reception and the way both were instantly eclipsed by the Speaker calling Mr Brocklebank-Fowler. It would have made excellent viewing. It is not quite up to the Spanish

television catching the Civil Guards rushing into the chamber, gun blazing. But it would be no bad thing for democracy here to leave the cameras on for all eventualities.

It won't happen, of course. The major parties won't risk it. My point here is that we are going to be meeting some freak political weather just ahead. There will be eccentric individual actions and these will distract from the undoubted dogmatism of the more conventional politicians—be they brave new Social Democrats and Liberals or the grittily determined Margaret Thatcher and Michael Foot.

Television is going to have a difficult and, in my view, much-contested part to play. The major parties, jealous of their prerogatives and increasingly vulnerable, are bound to become sensitive and obstructive towards broadcast time given to the new party.

The Social Democrats, with two years at most to consolidate mass appeal with the Liberals, will be exploiting the broadcasting media for every second and film frame they can get, nationally and locally, beginning with Thursday's launching. Keeping everybody's balance will probably be impossible.

The latest dispute over the awarding of independent television franchises underlines the flaws in the selection method

Will Trident's bluff win the great northern lottery?

When the Independent Broadcasting Authority delivered its considered opinion on what ought to make up the face of British commercial broadcasting last December, everyone could be excused for thinking that the judges' decision was final.

This week's developments in the increasingly befuddled scrum between the IBA and Trident Television, the holder of the Yorkshire and Tyne Tees franchises, make it clear that this is far from the case.

Last December the IBA decided to damn Trident with faint praise. It gave its imprimatur to the programme output of both Yorkshire and Tyne Tees in the face of well-organized competition from the companies' rivals, and then added the rider that Trident had two months to arrange for both companies to be set up as separate entities in which Trident would have no more than a minority stake.

Falling that, if (the IBA) will consider afresh the offer of the two contracts, the Authority said. Two months of offer in front of it, and the last option it is considering is awarding the contract to someone else.

Whatever the outcome of the present machinations, it does seem likely that it will seal the fate of the present method of selection in what represents Britain's most lucrative public lottery, and that message is now starting to sink in to the IBA's bureaucratic headquarters in Knightsbridge. Both the authority and Trident have maintained a discreet public face over the issue in the past few weeks. The IBA's demands were simple and clear in principle but apparently more complex in implementation.

Trident has satisfied the authority with its plans for Tyne Tees. The North East company will be floated off with a separate entity next September on a £5m issue with a further £10m to be raised through loans.

It is the larger and much more important operation of Yorkshire Television which presents the problems. YTV and Tyne Tees merged in 1970 with the blessing of the then Independent Television Authority because YTV was having difficulty in meeting its network commitments, and remaining viable. Under the guiding hand of Ward Thomas, now chairman of Trident, the two companies organized a joint airtime selling agreement which enabled them to pool their resources.

Trident executives privately describe the IBA's demand for the separation of the two companies as "an attempt to unscramble an omelette". Yorkshire on its own, Trident says, has too many demands as one of the big five contributors to the network to be sufficiently attractive to private capital without having its present position as a major network contributor lessened or a continuation of the joint selling agreement. And that agreement, says Trident, would become an illegal restrictive practice when both Tyne Tees and Yorkshire became separate companies.

It would require an estimated £10m in share issues to float the new company with perhaps a further £20m in loans.

But is Trident trying to pull an enormous bluff in the hope of retaining control which the IBA has called? The company's beliefs about the joint selling agreement are certainly open to question. It may be that the present arrangement might not be satisfactory, but most broad-casting minds outside Trident believe that a legal compromise could be reached.

In spite of the company's

David Hewson

Caroline Moorehead



Peter Easterby: sometimes the mask slips...

Racing dreams and reality

Sportsview

drama and emotions always lie close to the surface.

Now for the other side of the coin. As far as the training of Little Owl has been concerned the winner had been prepared for his ordeal by that outstanding professional, Peter Easterby. At the age of 51 this shrewd and humorous Yorkshireman now stands on a unique pedestal of fame. He is a man for all seasons. And as handler of both jumpers and flat racers, Easterby's record is unsurpassed in Europe today now that Vincent O'Brien is devoting his formidable energies to the flat. Five winners of the Champion Hurdle and two of the Gold Cup are but seven of his many victories gained at Cheltenham. And on the flat most of the

clency. John O'Neill, his injured first jockey, says, "I can never make him out. He'll watch his horses work and apart from a brief comment such as 'See Pigeon's well' he'll say nothing. He'll then watch them walking around him in a circle afterwards and still keep silence. He then just walks away. It's all in here," concluded the jockey tapping the side of his head significantly.

Sometimes the mask slips and the man's burning ambition is revealed. His main passions are his horses and his racing. At last December's press luncheon I was sitting beside him and talking to him about his recreations. "Today's our big first cover shoot. They'll get 600 pheasants. But if you don't come to these dos they don't ask you again. And I want to be back here every year." He was referring to his award as National Hunt trainer of the year.

Later on the cigars were passed round. I refused. Easterby stared at me in total disbelief. "That's five quid you've just given away. You must be slipping. You can't be hungry any more," he said by way of emphasizing his point. When a man isn't hungry he's finished. There are a lot of young ones down below just waiting to step into our shoes."

Easterby knows the score and is well aware of the race. But although this particular king rat appears to be doing his fellows with ease, he is fully cognisant of the perils of slackening the pace.

So all dreamers are practical at heart. Whether it be Easterby getting Sea Pigeon, Little Owl and Night Nurse ready for their attacks on the important prizes, Mrs Pilkington training Willie Wumkins or Miss Caroline Mason who at the age of 24 won at Cheltenham with Waggoner's Walk for the second year in succession, those ambitions are only realized by a combination of hard work, skill and attention to detail.

And as we let our emotions run riot in the heady atmosphere of the festival, let us salute the countrymen and countrywomen who husbandry and care made it possible to back and cheer home the winners.

Michael Seely



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

THE LONG MARCH FROM MAOISM

"Deng Xiaoping doesn't understand Marxism. He is a capitalist." Such abuse from Mao while he lived has been repaid by Mr Deng since his death by raising Mao's own works for a slogan to inspire the China he has been reshaping: "seek truth from the facts". This injunction cannot always be easy in a China where statistics are rudimentary. To many it still seems risky to sweep away slogans, however empty of meaning. For many more the clouds of Maoist revolutionary euphoria have not yet lifted enough for them to see what a fact looks like. But Mr Deng can tell himself he is winning.

Unfortunately a China that is trying to be more honest with its facts means painting a picture that looks unduly gloomy. There is certainly disaffection among old Maoists and young anti-Maoists: the country is riddled with indiscipline, the loss of party authority, crime and minor corruption. Inflation and unemployment can no longer be disguised; not least, the unquenched natural disasters of drought and flood still strike some provinces and impose real hardship on those lucky enough to get a meal a day—and not a quare one at that. All the same, prospects for the eighties are relatively good after the disasters of the seventies which followed the cultural revolution.

Not that everything is settled and predictable. Plainly there has been a struggle between the Hua Guofeng camp and the Deng Xiaoping camp and Mr Deng is still having trouble. In the early stages much could be made of these two personalities, indubitably opposed since Mr Hua rode to power over the ruin of Mr Deng's career, following the massive anti-Maoist demonstration in Peking in April, 1975. Yet there is a clear difference of outlook in the two camps. The Hua following has been clouded by Maoism; it retains its concepts of class struggle and self-sacrifice or a continuing revolutionary zeal: it is ready to worship at the shrine of the departed leader while discarding the extremism represented by the gang of four.

The Deng camp—to which the majority of the old party generation belong—lived with Mao from the earliest days. They saw and admired his achievements as a revolutionary leader through the thirties and forties, but they believe that his attempts at evolutionary innovation from the great leap forward of 1958 through the cultural revolution and until his death were disastrous. The Deng camp is ready to make a radical critique

of the whole of Mao's period in power, in particular of the economic and political disruption for which he is accountable. And with the evidence of Japan, South Korea, Taiwan and Hong Kong as examples of economic growth on China's doorstep they are prepared to ask themselves why China's performance has fallen so far behind.

In party political terms this has meant disagreement over who should be rehabilitated. At the posthumous memorial ceremony for Liu Shao-chi Mr Hua and his chief backer in the political arena, the octogenarian Ye Jianying, were notable absentees. Kang Sheng, Mao's secret police chief and Hua's patron, who died in 1975, has also been posthumously expelled from the party. The gang of four trial was many times delayed—should it or should it not include evidence revealing Hua's close association with the gang? As for the party's considered conclusion on the cultural revolution and on Mao's "mistakes" in his last two decades, these are among other grounds for postponing the central committee plenum expected last January and the twelfth party congress due next month.

More important than these political difficulties, both personal and ideological, has been the overriding importance of getting China's economy moving forward smoothly. This was an aim to which the Hua camp was no less committed than Deng's but in which Mr Hua's direction in 1977 and 1978 is now under strong attack. In the spring of 1978 he outlined to the national people's congress 125 major projects for China to undertake, including new coalfields, steel plants, oilfields, ports, railways, petrochemical complexes and the like. These were far beyond China's means, given hopelessly inadequate management skills, poor communications, uncertain power supplies. Nevertheless the imports followed, many schemes went ahead, and in only too many disaster became apparent in 1979 and 1980. Frank admissions in the Chinese press about equipment rusting unused for months, factories built to no purpose, plant totally unproductive for lack of power, waste and mismanagement, have made a sorry record in the past six months.

The zig-zags since this great rush forward have not been easy to interpret. In December, 1978, Mr Deng won his ascendancy in the politburo but ever since the Hua camp, enjoying the backing of some sturdy Maoists and the time-honoured "requests and requires" rubric which rightly would still be identifiable national, although based on a common design and all sharing the same colour. It goes without saying that it was impossible for the colour to be that of any existing member's passport that would imply that someone had won and someone lost. Everyone had to change. The enlargement of the Community might have stymied the whole exercise if it had gone much further, but luckily there is one colour that nobody uses—deep red. It must be carefully distinguished both from Cardinal Red, which would offend the Orangemen, and from Deepest Red, the colour of the People's Flag; the Foreign Office calls it burgundy, which should not give any offence except perhaps in Bordeaux.

At the same time the text of the passport is to be given "machine readable capability" so that a computer can instantly determine whether the bearer is an international terrorist or behind on his television licence, no doubt that will mean knobbly letters, which will be tolerable only if they are confined to the business text. The royal arms

smoking. In the long term improving the nutrition of today's schoolgirls through, for example, better school meals would be an important contribution to their ability to bear healthy babies in the future.

The chances of the low birth weight babies which are born now could be increased by the provision of more skilled neonatal care. There is an urgent need to direct our best obstetric services to the babies who are most at risk by virtue of their mothers' health, age or poverty.

Finally, to concentrate on the moral issues of whether the few most desperately damaged babies live or die, could divert attention from the urgent improvements needed in the medical, financial and social support given to the families of the far greater number of handicapped children about whose survival there is no doubt but whose quality of life could be greatly improved.

These are not abstract issues of conscience. They are matters of resource, commitment and political will. It is to the improvements in the services Britain gives its mothers and babies that we believe the current public concern could best be directed.

Yours faithfully,
HELENE HAYMAN,
JEAN COUSSINS,
CAROLINE WOODROFFE,
JANE STREATHER,
CATHERINE BOYD,
MARGARET WYNN,
ANNE DILLON,
The Maternity Alliance,
12 Park Crescent, W1.
March 10.

and the time-honoured "requests and requires" rubric which rightly would still be identifiable national, although based on a common design and all sharing the same colour. It goes without saying that it was impossible for the colour to be that of any existing member's passport that would imply that someone had won and someone lost. Everyone had to change. The enlargement of the Community might have stymied the whole exercise if it had gone much further, but luckily there is one colour that nobody uses—deep red. It must be carefully distinguished both from Cardinal Red, which would offend the Orangemen, and from Deepest Red, the colour of the People's Flag; the Foreign Office calls it burgundy, which should not give any offence except perhaps in Bordeaux.

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Television right of reply

From Dr N. J. Legg and Dr A. J. Rice
Sir, Mr Le Carré (March 17) has described his recent experience with ITN, who broadcast something untrue, admitted to him that it was untrue, even agreed that their source did not exist, and yet refused to withdraw what they had said.

The BBC has been playing a similar game since entering and promoting the controversy about brain death. Public confidence was shaken by the initial *Panorama* programme and the number of kidney donors fell. In the second programme Dr Ronald Paul, of the original *Panorama* team, claimed in front of four million viewers that he knew of two patients who had been pronounced brain dead but who had survived. He has now publicly retracted this statement, as recorded in your columns. (March 18). But where was BBC Television's coverage of this withdrawal? Nowhere to be seen.

We have now written to Sir Ian Trethowan asking him to publicise Dr Paul's retraction in an announcement on *Panorama* or *Question Time*, in order to reach the audience who were misled in the previous debate.

It remains to be discovered whether the BBC wants to be seen as a credible source of information, or as an erratic hit-and-run driver, not officially aware of having hit anything and certainly not admitting responsibility for the consequences.

Yours sincerely,
NIGEL LEGG, Consultant Neurologist,
A. J. REES, Consultant in Renal Medicine,
University of London,
Royal Postgraduate Medical School,
Hammer Smith Hospital,
Ducane Road, W12.
March 20.

Cut-price air fares

From Mr A. J. Lucking
Sir, The Ladies Burton and Elliot (March 18) are right to campaign for an end to restrictions on the sale of cheap fares. Now that the airlines have introduced an intermediate "business class" generally, they should be set free to sell the "economy" seats at the market price. As governments will continue to control the total capacity provided on many routes in the short term, the market should not be swamped. It is to be hoped that eventually the present virtually free market in the Atlantic will spread worldwide.

The present "close season" between the expiry of the advance purchase time limits, and the availability of last-minute fares, prevents the airlines from selling residual seats at a price which would be to their advantage. This is a major reason for the creation of bucket shops, though they seem to be also a low-cost method of distributing tickets which have been computer-generated by the airlines.

Such tickets, sold to the market by travel agents on net fare basis, to encourage competition and efficiency in retailing.

Yours faithfully,
A. J. LUCKING,
Flat 20,
17 Broad Court,
Box Street, WC2.
March 19.

Budget contentions

From Sir Siegmund Warburg
Sir, Every Budget, even an innocuous one, provokes much critical reaction. And the Budget of March 10 has so far had an extremely high proportion of critics throughout the country and not least in your columns.

Those who believe, as I do, that the Government is right in considering its present primary duty to be the halting of inflation ought surely to admit that the basic contents of the Budget are consistent with this aim. After thirty uninterrupted years of reckless spending and borrowing by both Conservative and Labour governments—accompanied by widespread leadership weaknesses on both sides of industry—how can we expect a turn around in less than two years and is there not undue impatience in railing against the Budget?

One can easily find several defects of substance and of presentation in the Chancellor's speech which justify criticism even from those who approve of the Budget's anti-inflationary primary duty. However, such defects seem to me secondary in relation to the Budget's principal objective of dealing with inflation.

It is obvious that the fight against unemployment through expansion of the economy must be the fundamental aim. But sound and steady expansion against short-termism and hotchpotch bloating of the economy—can only begin once the inflationary fever has been brought under adequate control.

Yours faithfully,
SIEGMUND G. WARBURG,
30 Gresham Street, EC2.
March 17.

From Dr A. S. Cole
Sir, It seems surprising that the Government, having for many years seen fit to tax alcohol and cigarettes in a punitive manner, has not taken steps to increase the tax on sugar-containing products. The evidence that a high sugar intake has deleterious effects on health is now generally conceded and, if doubts were felt about tampering with the nation's cup of tea, it should still be possible to tax manufactured goods containing sugar, i.e. sweets, ice cream, fruit drinks, tinned fruit and sweet biscuits.

In view of their extensive consumption this should bring in a substantial revenue, enabling the universal damaging increase in petrol tax to be reduced and at the same time having a beneficial effect on the nation's health.

Yours faithfully,
ANNE S. COLE,
Department of Biochemistry,
University of Bristol,
Medical School,
University Walk,
Bristol.
March 17.

Questions in the Hayman case

From Mr R. A. Rosen
Sir, The Speaker of the House of Commons (report, March 19) has erred in warning of the risk of abusing the privileges of members. It is essential that no discouragement be given to members of the Commons' rights to question the Attorney General as to the use made of the power to prosecute. It was also unnecessary as ample publicity had already been given by *Private Eye* to the identity of the person on the subject of parliamentary questions weeks ago.

Two important questions arise out of the current interest. Do so-called important people such as a former keeper of the Queen's pictures and a former Ambassador to Moscow enjoy, together with a former High Commissioner for Canada, the right to have their bad behaviour concealed from the public (whether criminal or not) is sometimes a particularly difficult question? Second, has the time come for Parliament to consider making it an offence to prohibit the possession as well as the supply of indecent material involving children?

I must admit wishing Parliament would turn its attention away from the trivia of an elderly gentleman of bizarre tastes and towards more adequate protection of the young.

Yours faithfully,
R. ARNOLD ROSEN,
Goldsmith Building,
Temple, EC4.
March 19.

From Professor Thomas Lindahl
Sir, Mr Richard Ford's report on Sir Peter Hayman (March 18) was stunning. "Sir Peter could be relied upon to help out... worshipped at the local Anglican church... was always in demand to represent Anglican unity. This certainly reads very much like an obituary. Does the offence committed by Sir Peter motivate this kind of capital punishment? Granted, in the present case a Conservative MP was

to other principles and emphases, valid within their own setting and in their own right, whose abandonment can only mean that the Church is impoverished."

To follow the principle of unity in diversity will carry the church into uncharted waters, but thank God we have an Archbishop who has shown himself ready to push the boat out.

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE AUSTIN,
The Vicarage,
19 High Road, Bushey Heath,
Watford, Hertfordshire,
March 16.

From the Bishop of Chester
Sir, Your Religious Correspondent (March 16) gives a timely reminder to the Church of England of its present inconsistencies and, in some areas, virtual anarchy. That learned and much missed Dean of Arches, the Worshipful and Reverend Master Eplimstone, was Chancellor of this diocese and gave a timely reminder of the results which our manners of recent years would entail.

This week I have had the following instances. One incumbent writing for my permission for a Nonconformist minister to preach regularly and administer the Sacrament in an Anglican church; an application from an Anglican vicar for my permission to form a church along with non-conformist denominations in a derelict shop on a housing estate; involving shared worship; and, finally, a strongly critical letter from another vicar because I seek to bring some order into the present situation in our Church where increasing numbers of lay people administer the Sacrament of Holy Communion (sometimes in both kinds) as a matter of normal practice, and even entitlement, rather than in extreme urgency and by special permission.

I define anarchy as the "absence of government". It may well be that during the course of the next few years we will introduce legislation to authorize these matters, but Parliament and the generality of our Church ought to be aware of the "Great Deceit", i.e. that the nationalists and modernists will stop at no length to achieve their ends, even to the extent of breaking our laws and ignoring our traditions, on the grounds that such old-fashioned restrictions will eventually be repealed by common sense and desuetude. When "difference" is equated with "sin", what hope is there?

It is no use blaming the Church Commissioners or the General Synod. The fault lies in the Church, as in all waysward institutions, at the door of those who by training, appointment and authority ought to discharge their tasks with honour and simply do not.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
VICTOR CESTR,
Bishop's House, Chester.
March 18.

From Mr Bernard Black
Sir, Why does Mr Roy Jenkins spoil his soundly based plea for proportional representation (PR) by confirming his preference for the West German hybrid system when we already have a superior system—the single transferable vote (STV)—in operation in part of the United Kingdom?

It is doubly disappointing because his appeal for PR was based on a desire to provide a government closer to the wishes of the people rather than caucus domination by parties. Yet the West German system perpetuates party-dominated single-member constituencies and only produces PR in Parliament by a "topping up" process from party lists, sometimes with the very candidates who have been rejected in the constituencies.

If the Social Democrats really want to give power to the people, they must stipulate STV in multi-member constituencies as the only satisfactory basis for electoral reform. Just as Mr Jenkins asks, "what are we waiting for?", so I ask: Why doesn't he?

Yours faithfully,
BERNARD BLACK,
Head of Political Studies,
St John's College,
Southsea,
Hampshire.
March 18.

Establishing trust between nations

From Mrs Elizabeth Young
Sir, Professor Hinde (March 12) ends his letter on the dangers of radioactive pollution from the existence of nuclear weapons with the suggestion that the West "stop meeting every proposal from the USSR with childish suspicion and... seek ways of building trust."

Has Professor Hinde not noticed that the French Government has made proposals exactly to this end at the Madrid Conference? The proposal, which is backed by the other West European governments, and also by the new American Administration, is that confidence-building measures—sending the verifiable and militarily significant, should be negotiated to cover the whole of Europe from the Atlantic to the Ural, and that when these measures are in operation, a European conventional disarmament conference should take place. Mr Brezhnev himself has gone so far as to agree, under certain conditions, that Soviet Russia up to the Urals should indeed be included in a confidence-building system.

This has all been in the press. Why does Professor Hinde ignore it? Why indeed on Mr E. P. Thompson (March 6) and his friends ignore it? Their European nuclear zone is a non-starter given that those outside the zone can threaten to lob nuclear weapons into it, and given the impossibility of ever demonstrating a total absence of nuclear weapons within the zone.

Responsible governments developed nuclear weapons to deter attack on their peoples by other nuclear Powers. The super-Powers now hold quantities of nuclear weapons vastly beyond what is needed for deterrence. But as Mr Brezhnev said at the 26th Congress last month, virtually quoting Lord Mountbatten, "The military-strategic balance between the USSR and the USA, between the Warsaw Pact and NATO, of deterrence, is the maintenance of world peace." That balance must be maintained through-out the disarmament process and properly devised confidence-building measures should allow such a process to start.

The West, of course, is not being unreasonable. But Mr Brezhnev's disarmament bonafides in the mouth: it was he and his government who rejected out of hand President Carter's proposals in 1977 that they should negotiate "deep cuts" in strategic arms, "down to 50 per cent." Mr Brezhnev does now have the opportunity, if he accepts the French proposal for a properly trustworthy system of confidence-building measures, in Europe, of making up for that utterly blameworthy refusal in 1977.

Yours etc,
ELIZABETH YOUNG,
100 Baywater Road, W2.
March 18.

From Mr Leonard Cox
Sir, Dr Jennifer Butterfield and her fellow zoologists (March 17) leave us to decide whether we "prefer to walk through agricultural land or the wild natural tundra" which is rather like asking us to choose between an apple and a glass of cider. There is great pleasure to be had out of farm walking, particularly in the company of a farmer who really loves his land, and there is no more beautiful sight in many than a healthy, well-manured potato crop in full bloom.

Sure, a view of "wild natural tundra" is often quite wonderful to contemplate, on account of its very wildness and naturalness. On the other hand some of this upland wilderness is disturbed, and is utterly inspiring to gaze upon, even when one's companion is a female zoologist from Durham University.

Yours truly,
LEONARD COX,
7 Needon Drive,
Bebington,
Wirral,
Merseyside,
March 17.

From Mr R. G. H. Morris
Sir, Your leading article on March 11 is most timely, as a lead by Britain could help to achieve such facilities generally. Free fire on arrival has been long sought after by the airlines, with limited success so far.

The obstacle to progress so far has been HM Customs rather than airport authorities.

A point not made in your article is the safety aspect. Spirits are flammable (whisky was used to destroy a hijacked Super VC10 at Schiphol Airport, Amsterdam, some years ago). Apart from broken glass, dirty fire bottles have been an obstacle on occasions during emergency evacuations; their weight has also forced overhead luggage racks to open during turbulence and emergency landings, causing avoidable injury.

I sincerely hope that your message will be heeded in appropriate places.

Yours faithfully,
R. G. H. MORRIS,
26 Washington Drive,
Windsor,
Berkshire.
March 12.

Suspended sentences
From the Reverend D. W. Dale
Sir, As a parish priest, soon to become a school chaplain, I read with dismay your report on a forthcoming television programme (March 19) that the Inner London Education Authority has banned capital punishment in schools. Such mindless liberalism in these undisciplined times will lead to chaos. If we can't hang the little horrors, what can we do? Will flogging be enough?

Yours sincerely,
DAVID DALE,
Holy Trinity Vicarage,
Hereford.
March 19.

Handicapped babies

From Mrs Helene Hayman and others
Sir, As members of the steering committee of the Maternity Alliance, an organization campaigning for improvement in the services to parents and new babies, we have been following with care the current controversy about the treatment of very severely handicapped babies at birth.

Our worries about the dogmatic and legalistic approaches currently being adopted by some organizations are threefold.

First, we believe that each of these births is an individual family tragedy and deserves to be treated as such by the parents and paediatric staff who have to assess together the issues of conscience and care are involved.

Secondly, a concentration on the ignoring moral decisions to be made after such a birth detracts from what we believe should be the overwhelming public priority—the prevention of those handicaps which are in fact avoidable.

There is great scope for progress in this field.

A major onslaught on the incidence of congenital malformation is needed. This would include better preconception care and advice during pregnancy, rubella vaccinations and screening for abnormality and disease during pregnancy.

The numbers of low birth weight and therefore vulnerable babies could be reduced in the short term by a really effective campaign to persuade mothers-to-be to give up

THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

Personal
investment and
finance,
pages 20, 21 & 22

Stock markets

FT Ind 500.9, up 4.2
FT Gilt 70.61, up 0.29

Sterling

\$2.2655, down 1.60 cent
Index 100.2, unchanged

Dollar

Index 98.6, up 0.3
DM 2.0670, up 178 pts

Gold

\$517.50, up \$9

Money

3 mth sterling 12 1/2-13 1/4
3 mth Euro 5 13 1/2-14 1/4
6 mth Euro 5 13 1/2-14 1/4

IN BRIEF

Gold closes 29 up after hectic JS dealing

Gold soared almost \$30 an ounce in New York to close at \$517.50, against Thursday's \$512.50, what dealers described as a "mad" trade.

According to one trader, the "mad" was an over-reaction to a speculative buying, fuelled by fears of a confrontation in Poland and by the "raker's" ability to break through certain charted points.

Gold gained \$15 in the last minutes of trade after opening at the day's low of \$510.

London, the metal closed at \$517.50, up \$9.

Dollar recovery

Recovery by the dollar in most major currencies sterling 1.6 cents lower at 655 yesterday. A growing feeling that a further cut in interest rates would be within the next couple of weeks led to a fresh fall in Treasury Bill rates from 4 to 11.58 per cent at the daily tender.

ining venture

West Consolidated Minerals has applied for planning permission to start work on the Redmoor Mine in north Wales. If permission is granted, the mine could be working in two years, employing 650 people and could produce as much as 20 per cent of the United Kingdom's lead.

money supply

The basic American money supply M1A averaged \$365,700m in the week ended March 11, unchanged from the previous week.

The broader money supply M2, increased to \$412,800m from \$412,800m.

computers backing

The European Commission is funding further applications for computer projects to develop software and implement new uses of computers in industry. About £2m has been allocated to 14 projects.

so speculation

The Argentine central bank is to start a run on foreign currency yesterday by anyone buying it to sign a "cemento" declaring how the money would be spent. There is speculation of a devaluation of the peso.

Cocoa pact

The EEC has agreed in principle to sign the international cocoa agreement, which aims to reach agreement on the member states' Community should sign it.

ime rate cut

Outward Bank of St Louis lowered its prime rate to 17 1/2 per cent from 18 1/2 per cent.

B base rate cut

The TSB is cutting its base rate by 1 percentage point to 10 per cent from April 1.

ill Street higher

The Dow Jones industrial average closed 6.22 points up to 80. The S&P 500 was 1.27% up to 1.27%.

Inflation starts to rise again with February retail prices increase of 0.9 pc

By Melvyn Westlake

The rapid decline in the underlying rate of price inflation since last spring came to an abrupt halt last month, even before the effect of the Budget measures had fed through to prices.

Government figures published yesterday show that the retail price index rose 0.9 per cent in February, the highest monthly rise for some time.

In spite of this, the year-on-year rate of inflation eased to 12.5 per cent compared to 13 per cent in January.

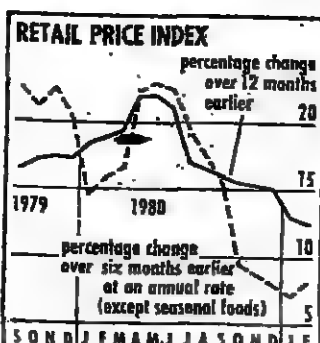
However, the annualized rate of change in prices over the last six months provides "a better guide to the underlying level of inflation, and on this measure inflation is shown to have risen to 8.2 per cent from 7.1 per cent in January, bringing to an end the unbroken decline from the peak level of 22 per cent last May.

It now seems probable that the inflation rate will show only a small further improvement in coming months and may even worsen briefly.

With the tax burden rising sharply and pay settlements running at 10 per cent or less, there is little doubt that most people will soon be experiencing a sharp drop in their living standards.

Unless taxes are cut in the next Budget this fall seems set to continue into 1982.

It is expected that the measure introduced by Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor, will add about two percentage points to the retail price



RETAIL PRICE INDEX

percentage change over 12 months

percentage change over six months

at an annual rate (except seasonal foods)

SOURCE: H.M.S.O. J.A.S.O.N.D.I.F.

index in the next couple of months. And the increase in local authority rates and rents could add a further percentage point.

Local authority rates are expected to rise by an average of about 19 per cent in April. The main offsetting factor will be the drop in house mortgage rates which could trim the retail price index by about a third of a percentage point. However, the price index takes no account of the increasing tax burden and the Chancellor's failure to raise personal allowances in line with inflation over the past year.

Shortly after the Government took office in 1979, it instructed Whitehall statisticians to compile a new index known as the tax and price index or TPI.

This shows the combined effect of changes in prices and direct taxes. It was commissioned because the Government wanted to demonstrate the over-

all benefits of the tax measures in its first Budget, involving reductions in income tax and increases in value added tax.

In coming months the index is going to be an embarrassment to ministers. By April it is expected to be three or four percentage points above the retail price index, reflecting recent tax measures. It could have the effect of encouraging trades union leaders to seek pay settlements of a comparable order.

The rate of increase in earnings has been falling sharply for some time, and officials at the Department of Employment estimate that the underlying increase in earnings since last summer has been at an annual rate of only about 10 per cent.

The Government has shown that it will be seeking to achieve a further downward movement in the size of pay settlements in the wage round starting next summer.

It gave a strong hint in its latest expenditure White Paper that it intends to hold down pay settlements in the public sector to 6 per cent for a further year after the present wage round ends in July.

By contrast, the Treasury forecasts that prices will still be rising by about 10 per cent in the final quarter of 1981, compared with 8 per cent in the second quarter of 1982. This must lead inevitably to a steady decline in living standards unless the Chancellor finds room to make tax cuts.

Table, page 22

Rundown of stocks results in huge slump for total output

By Frances Williams

Fresh illustration of the unbalanced character of the present recession was provided yesterday with the publication of official figures on national output, income and spending last year.

A fall in total output of nearly 6 per cent between the fourth quarters of 1979 and 1980—one of the worst slumps this century—was almost wholly engineered by a huge rundown of stocks by industry and retailers. But consumer spending remained fairly steady while current spending by central and local government rose by nearly 3 per cent.

The relative buoyancy of consumer spending reflects the fact that the rise in earnings over the past year has outstripped increases in prices and this has more than outweighed the loss of income from the growing unemployed.

But consumers have saved an increasing proportion of their incomes—nearly 17 per cent in the third quarter of

1980—which has dampened the effect on spending.

The income of those in work—representing about 70 per cent of gross domestic product (at factor cost)—rose by 15.4 per cent in cash terms over the year to the fourth quarter of 1980, compared with a rise in gross domestic product of 13.6 per cent.

But the severity of the recession was reflected in sliding company profits. In 1980 as a whole the trading profits of industrial and commercial companies after deducting stock appreciation were up by only 7.5 per cent on 1979, in cash terms, less than half the inflation rate over the period.

The year-on-year figures mask a sharp fall in profits in the second half of 1980, which were down 7 per cent in the first half.

A rise of nearly £200m in company profits in the fourth quarter of last year on the previous quarter was almost entirely caused by additional profits for companies with North Sea oil interests.

Table, page 22

Yesterday's figures show large discrepancies between the measures of gross domestic product based on output, spending and income data. The output figures are generally considered to be the most reliable to indicate changes over short periods—but they are also the most gloomy.

The fall in g.d.p.—expressed as an average of the three bases—was two per cent in 1980 compared to 1979, rather less than the three per cent fall indicated by the output measure alone.

Yesterday's figures are broadly consistent with Treasury estimates published with the Budget last week. The Treasury expects further huge de-stocking in the first half of 1981, with the rate of decline slackening in the second half.

Consumer spending is predicted to fall by one per cent this year over 1980 as lower pay settlements and rising unemployment depress real incomes. And even this could prove optimistic, relying on a substantial fall in the savings ratio.

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Table, page 22

Call for sale of £2,000m state assets

By Patricia Tisdall

A delegation from the Institute of Directors yesterday urged Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor, to set a £2,000m a year target for the sale of publicly-owned assets.

At a meeting with Sir Geoffrey, the directors asked him to re-examine a stepped programme of tax reductions with a target of an income tax standard rate of 25 per cent and a maximum rate of 50 per cent.

Mr Walter Goldsmith, the Institute's director-general, said this could only be funded by a privatization programme of public sector assets involving the sale of state-owned assets of fixed assets and convertible debentures secured on assets, which would allow lenders to de-nationalize state industries automatically by converting their loans into equity.

"Such a policy would be entirely consistent with the Government's overall objectives," Mr Goldsmith said.

EEC steel chiefs out to set system of voluntary curbs

From Michael Hornsby

Brussels, March 20

The chief executives of Europe's leading state-owned steel companies began emergency talks in Luxembourg today on a new voluntary production restraint agreement. The meeting was expected to continue throughout the weekend.

Earlier this month the executives, who meet weekly under the aegis of the club of the main European steel producers, were told by EEC member states that agreement on voluntary restraint must be reached by April 1.

The voluntary pact would replace the system of compulsory production quotas which is due to expire on June 30. These are being imposed under the emergency powers of Article 58 of the European Coal and Steel Community Treaty.

The West German Government, which never liked the use of Article 58, said it would veto any extension of the compulsory system beyond June. Other member states accept that the

Germans will not be moved on this.

Speaking in Brussels earlier this month, Mr Norman Tebbit, the Minister of State for Industry, gave warning that steel companies would be "committing suicide" if they did not agree on a voluntary arrangement reached by the end of June this year with the loss of 530 jobs. The work force at another rolling mill, at Falkirk, Central Scotland, is to be cut by about 100.

Although the Falkirk plant will continue working, jobs will be shed to improve its competitiveness. The head office of the rolling division will be transferred from Twickenham, Middlesex, to Falkirk with a reduced staff, giving a total cutback of more than 700 jobs.

Stanley Tools said yesterday it would close 80 workers redundant at its four South Yorkshire plants.

The announcements coincided with government efforts to demonstrate the benefits being made available to companies and workers to help them through the recession. Mr Peter Morrison, a junior employment minister, said that in the next financial year about 1.75 million people could benefit from the Government's special employment measures.

In a speech at Runcorn, Cheshire, he said that much of the £1,000m allocated in this month's Budget to job support measures would be used to give unemployed young people work experience and help to companies which were avoiding the worst effects of the recession by putting employees on short time working instead of dismissing them.

Auditor and Newman Industries reach accord on 'excessive' valuation Deloitte to pay £445,000 settlement

By Catherine Gunn

Deloitte, Haskins & Sells, the chartered accountancy firm, has agreed to pay Newman Industries £445,000 in settlement of the valuation it carried out on the Thomas Poole and Gladstone china group bought by Newman in 1975. In February, 1980, the High Court judged the valuation to have been excessive, though it recognized that Deloitte had been deliberately misled. The judge ruled that Newman had paid at least £450,000 too much for TPG. Deloitte, which is Newman's auditor, denies liability.

This is the second large payment made to a company by its auditor this week. On Tuesday Pentos announced that Neville Russell, its auditor, was to make an ex-gratia payment of £400,000 in respect of a review of Caplan Profile, acquired by Pentos in 1979.

Last year Mr Alan Bartlett, the former chairman of Newman Industries, and Mr John Laughton, its former chief executive, were judged by the High Court to have conspired

to procure an excessive price for certain assets, and the assumption of certain liabilities, of TPG.

The case was brought by Prudential Assurance, which owns 3 per cent of Newman. TPG owned a 25.6 per cent stake in Newman, and was itself 35 per cent held by a company wholly owned by Mr Bartlett and Mr Laughton.

Newman Industries, now chaired by Mr John Williams, believes that there is little chance of recovering any significant damages and costs from Mr Bartlett and Mr Laughton. Acting on legal advice, it approached Deloitte, Haskins & Sells, which though denying liability, agreed to make the £445,000 payment in full settlement.

In the circumstances, Deloitte informed the Newman board that it was not willing to seek re-election as Newman's auditor; but because the Newman board has now placed on record that it was critical of the TPG valuation, it has no criticism

to make of Deloitte's conduct of its audits, the accountancy firm has agreed to let its name go forward for reappointment.

Mr John Bullock, the managing partner of Deloitte, Haskins & Sells, last night said the firm had nothing to add to the joint statement released by it and Newman Industries, yesterday evening, which revealed the payment.

In 1979, the latest year for which Newman has published its report and accounts, the United Kingdom auditor's remuneration was £139,000. Overseas auditors received a total of £118,000. In 1979, Newman's profits fell from £6.2m to £378,000. Half year figures to June 30, 1980, showed a pre-tax profit fall from £2.3m to £293,000 after much reduced profit margins, particularly in ceramics and electric motors. No interim dividend was paid, and there was no final payment for 1979.

In November last year, Cycle & Carriage, a Singapore-based car and lorry assembly group,



Alan Bartlett: conspiracy ruling by High Court

agreed to inject £8.1m into Newman Industries, in exchange for a controlling stake in the group. The money was to go towards reducing Newman's borrowings of £36.7m.

Midland worst hit among banks with profits down 28pc to £231m

By Ronald Pullen

Midland Bank yesterday announced the sharpest drop in earnings last year of all the big high street banks. After an unexpectedly bad first half, pre-tax profits fell almost 30 per cent in the second six months to leave the full year total down by 28 per cent at £231.8m.

This contrasts with a small rise in profits at Lloyds, virtually static profits at Barclays and a 7 per cent setback for National Westminster.

Unlike the other banks which have increased dividends to shareholders by around 20 per cent, Midland's payout goes up only 10p to 2.25, not a final dividend after the second interim just announced.

The stock market, however, had been prepared for rather worse results and the shares gained 10p to 323p. But the whole bank sector is in a nervous state after the windfall profits tax in the last Budget, and the prospect of next week's selective bank strike.

The hardest hit part of Midland's business has been domestic banking, where performance was described as disappointing by Sir David Barran, the chairman. Its contribution to total group profits before loan interest dropped from 60 to 45 per cent last year as narrowing interest margins and higher costs offset the rise in average base rates from 13.7 to 16.3 per cent.

The windfall profits tax will cost the bank around £70m, which compares with United Kingdom pre-tax profits of not much more than £100m.

With a higher proportion of advances to industry than the other clearers, Midland has been particularly pulled down by the industrial sector's financial problems, reflected in the jump in the provisions for bad debts from £12.1m to £32.7m, half of which arises from specific provisions.

Midland has also been hit, along with the other clearers, by the changing mix of its deposits with the six-point drop

to 31 per cent in the share of current accounts, on which no interest is paid, estimated to have cost between £50m and £60m in lost profits.

More than the other clearers, Midland has to rely on expensive wholesale money market deposits, which accounted for 38 per cent of the total last year. Costs, too, have risen sharply by 31 per cent and the 29 per cent rise in staff costs to almost £500m has led Midland to reassess its recruitment policy and could lead to redundancies in the current year.

Elsewhere, associate income halved to £18.9m after the sale of the stake in Standard Chartered, but higher volumes and better margins lay behind the improvement. Overall overseas, where profits after Standard Chartered's loss were nearly two-fifths higher.

Adjusting for inflation, current cost profits were almost halved to £94m and, but for the very low tax charge because of the timing rather than volume of leasing business, there would have been an attributable loss.

700 jobs to go at British Aluminium

By Our Industrial Editor

More than 700 British Aluminium workers face redundancy because of rationalization plans involving plant closures and reducing manning.

The company said yesterday it would close a rolling mill at Resolven, West Glamorgan, at the end of June this year with the loss of 530 jobs. The work force at another rolling mill, at Falkirk, Central Scotland, is to be cut by about 100.

Although the Falkirk plant will continue working, jobs will be shed to improve its competitiveness. The head office of the rolling division will be transferred from Twickenham, Middlesex, to Falkirk with a reduced staff, giving a total cutback of more than 700 jobs.

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The announcements coincided with government efforts to demonstrate the benefits being made available to companies and workers to help them through the recession. Mr Peter Morrison, a junior employment minister, said that in the next financial year about 1.75 million people could benefit from the Government's special employment measures.

In a speech at Runcorn, Cheshire, he said that much of the £1,000m allocated in this month's Budget to job support measures would be used to give unemployed young people work experience and help to companies which were avoiding the worst effects of the recession by putting employees on short time working instead of dismissing them.

Nigerian warning on S Africa trade links

By Peter Hill

Industrialists seeking to secure a share of the export market to Nigeria, expected to be worth £1,500m this year, were warned yesterday that the country would maintain its strict policy towards companies which also sought to trade with South Africa.

President Shagari and his delegation have had further discussions with Britain's business community over the past week and they are expected to continue informally over the next few days.

Nigeria is especially keen to encourage joint venture projects with British companies especially in food production and industries with agricultural links. As part of the country's efforts to achieve a greater degree of industrialization.

Britain wishes to secure a large share of a £600m arms sales contract which would involve ships, aircraft, surface to air missiles, tanks and armoured cars.

Britain is the largest single overseas investor in Nigeria, accounting for about 40 per cent of all foreign investment. Ministers who have made a number of visits to Lagos over

the past few months have been anxious to impress on British companies the considerable scope for expanding business links, under the country's fourth national development plan, which envisages spending £65,000m over the next five years.

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ICL management changes still awaited

By Bill Johnstone

ICL, Britain's leading indigenous computer company, yesterday welcomed the Government's announcement on Thursday of a guarantee of £200m loan finance. Citibank and the Midland, Barclays and National Westminster banks have agreed to increase their facilities to £270m for up to two years.

None of the expected management changes at the computer company was announced.

However, Sir George Jefferson, the chairman of British Telecom, reopened the debate on the funding of British Telecom in an address to the annual dinner of the Telecommunications, Engineering and Manufacturing Association (TEMA) only hours after the aid package for ICL was announced.

He said: "Another lesson we must keep repeating is that this is not another case of the Government coming to the aid of a lame duck. We're a profitable,

wealth-creating, job creating, growing business and we mean to stay that way."

Before the Budget, the Government raised the corporation's external financing limit for 1980-81 from £78m to £223m. Next year's limit has been set at £180m.

Sir George in his address to TEMA added: "We are going to be very hard pressed for capital investment next year, too. ICL shares closed 9p down at 38p yesterday."

Hongkong gold market weighs up the problem and decides on the ounce Imperial solution to an old Chinese puzzle

Inscrutable the Chinese may be, but immutable never. One of the world's richest and most unusual gold markets has decided to cease trading in a unit which is as old as old as Confucius after pondering for almost eight years about the decision.

The Hongkong Chinese Gold and Silver Exchange Society, or Kam Ngan, is changing from the traditional unit of measurement, the tael, to the less romantic but more universal measure of the imperial ounce.

The British, who have for the most part seen off European attempts to introduce metrication, might find this recourse to the illogicalities of the avoirdupois system most heartening.

But for the Chinese of Hongkong it could prove traumatic. Mr Woo Hon Fat, chairman of the Kam Ngan, says that because most Chinese are extremely conservative and prefer old methods, they are likely to show some concern about the change.

There is also the problem of converting Hongkong dollars per tael to United States dollars per imperial ounce.

There is no record of when the Chinese first used the tael, but it was a standard unit of currency for some centuries. The most important tael was issued in Shanghai in 1857, when China worked on the silver standard and it was current until abolished in April 1933.

Unfortunately for the country, most of the rest of the world was on the gold standard at the time which meant that the tael, though worth six shillings (30p) in 1873, fell to one shilling and twopenny in value at the time of its abolition.

The Hongkong society is thought to be the last market in the world still using it, its unit of measurement, its tael, which is based upon the Shanghai version, is equal to 1.2 fine ounces.

But the society could be in for a few more problems, before it comes into line with the rest of the world.

Unlike most gold markets, Hongkong deals purely in what brokers call "physical" gold,

not futures. Its busy transactions usually involve selling gold to be made into jewellery, as the Chinese are fond of displaying their wealth.

The traditional standard Hongkong gold has been 99.99 fineness compared with the softer 0.995 fineness expected in markets in most other parts of the world. The Hongkong version is harder and much more suitable to be worn.

Willingly as the local Chinese might be to standardize the unit in which it is sold, they are showing no signs at present of exchanging it for a purer but softer version which might depreciate visibly over the years.

David Hewson

Johannesburg investors face huge share losses

From Ray Kennedy

Johannesburg, March 20

EDITED BY MARGARET STONE

HOFF of HEYBRIDGE HEATH



Anybody in the (un)enviable position of having to contemplate how and when to take a golden handshake has no time to lose. The new rules announced in the Budget may look more attractive—and indeed they are for most employees, with the first £25,000 tax-free instead of only the first £10,000—but the proposals for golden handshakes of more than £25,000 may not be so advantageous for some people.

First of all let us be clear about the basic principles. If an employer makes a payment to an employee, then it is only taxable if it is an emolument received because of the employment. So, if an employer makes a condition of the terms of service that when an employee leaves he will receive a capital sum, then that capital sum is fully taxable as part of the employee's normal income.

In contrast, a capital payment that is made to compensate an employee who has been sacked, or a similar sum given as a gratuity (not as part of his contract) when his employment is terminated, is not taxable as an emolument because it is not one. In fact, until 1960 these so-called golden handshakes were not taxable at all. After 1960 part of such capital funds still remained tax-free; at first this amount was £5,000 and it is now £10,000. The balance of the lump sum was taxable as earned income, as subject to special reliefs.

Taxation

April poser of the golden handshake

HOW THE TAX SUMS WILL BE WORKED OUT

Income	£30,000
Golden handshake	40,000
Salary	30,000
Taxable part of golden handshake	15,000
Less reliefs and allowances	(5,000)
	40,000
Tax on (£11,250 @ 30%)	£3,375
Tax on (2,000 @ 40%)	800
Tax on (3,500 @ 45%)	1,575
Tax on (5,500 @ 50%)	2,750
Tax on (2,750 @ 55%)	1,512
	10,012
Tax on (2,750 @ 55%)	1,512
Tax on (12,250 @ 60%)	7,350
	8,862
£7,350 + 1,512	
12,250 + 2,750	15,000
	59.08%
Rate = 29.54% on excess of £15,000	
Net golden handshake	£ 4,431
	£35,569

Swept away are top slicing relief, standard capital superannuation benefit relief, the excessive penalties for having new income after you have received a termination payment and also the distinction between gratuitous and compensation payments.

Now, the first £25,000 will be tax-free and the excess will be taxed at half the individual's marginal rate of tax. So the top rate you can pay on the taxable part of a golden handshake will be 30 per cent.

The Budget proposals in effect offer a choice to people who have contracted to receive a termination payment in the near future:

1. To take the payment under the old rules in 1980-81.
2. To take the payment under the old rules in 1981-82.
3. To take the payment under the new rules in 1981-82.

If you are able to choose between at least two of these possibilities, there is really no time to lose; you must get competent advice—and fast. One of the crucial factors will be how much other income you are likely to receive after the payment and what charges or reliefs will be available to you in the relevant year.

Obviously, we cannot make firm recommendations, but here are some guidelines and also a few tips:

1. If the amount is £10,000 or less, it will not matter when you take the money—perhaps the sooner the better, so that you can start earning interest.
2. If the amount is between £10,000 and £25,000, then probably you should wait until after April 5.
3. If the amount is more than £25,000, then you really will need to do the arithmetic, bearing in mind how much income you expect to be earning next year and what reliefs you will be able to obtain. The more income you have next year and the bigger the golden handshake, the more likely it is that you will want to take it before April 5, but this is not a hard and fast rule.

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1. If you have already received a golden handshake this year, we hope that you will have had the advice not to start earning again before April 5.

2. Again, if you have—or now or now decide to take—your golden handshake now (before April 5) it might be worth setting up a scheme to "shelter" some of the taxable income. One way could be to set up a business during the next three years and then set losses in the early years against income that you have received this year.

3. It might be worth taking your golden handshake next year, under the old rules, if you can keep down the level of your other income until April 6, 1982, and obtain an additional tax relief. The Chancellor has just increased the first-year allowance on any new industrial building to 75 per cent, so in the first year you can actually claim 75 per cent of the cost, including the 4 per cent writing down allowance. In our view this makes the 100 per cent allowance on much less marketable small industrial premises comparatively unattractive.

4. If your job does not carry a pension, then you could make a self-employed pension contribution of up to 17½ per cent of the taxable part of the termination payment, also remembering any past years for which you could make a payment.

5. On the other hand, if the job does carry pension rights and you would like them to be increased, consider asking your employer to reduce the termination payment and boost your pension funding by an equivalent amount. You should not be taxed on a benefit, according to a new Inland Revenue Statement of Practice.

Danby Bloch and Raymond Godfrey

12%-14% net

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- Unlike bank and building society deposit accounts, these rates are fixed for 4 years,* and will not fluctuate with the general level of interest rates.
- How does the Bond work?**
The bond comprises four single premium endowment policies and one regular premium qualifying life policy. Each year one of the single premium policies is encashed to provide both the income and the premium. Immediately after the end of the fourth year the qualifying policy is encashed and you receive the guaranteed return of your capital.
- How do I apply?**
Complete the application below and forward it with a cheque to Trident Life Assurance Co. Ltd. Your application will be acknowledged and your policy will follow shortly. A Direct Debiting Mandate will also be sent to you to enable Trident Life to complete the transfer each year of the net premium due.

Age at Entry	Return % p.a.
18-64	12.00
65-69	12.25
70-74	12.50
75-79	13.25
80-84	14.00

Notes: 1. The figures assume you either pay basic rate tax or are a non-tax payer and are eligible for full premium relief on the life policy premiums of 17.1% now and 19% from 6th April 1981. Any changes in the premium rate will affect the net return available. The equivalent gross figures assume basic rate tax at 30%. 2. There is no liability under the Bond in basic rate tax. 3. Although there is no maximum investment, the return on your Bond will be affected if your total qualifying life assurance premium exceeds the statutory limits. These are £1,500 per annum or one-sixth of taxable income (before deduction of personal relief) whichever is higher. The premium for the qualifying life policy varies by age. If you have the full £1,500 available, you should not consider making an investment in excess of £7,500 without first consulting your usual professional adviser or ourselves.

4. To take maximum advantage of this offer you should leave your capital with us for the full four years. Should you find it necessary to cash in your Bond within the four years Trident Life will calculate a surrender value on request. This may result in a loss and give rise to an additional tax liability. 5. If you are a higher rate tax payer you may be liable to tax when both the single premium policies and the life policy are encashed. For example:

Rate of Tax	Net Yield
45%	10.8% - 12.5%
50%	9.8% - 11.1%
75%	8.2% - 9.6%

6. If you should die during the four year period, your Estate will receive a death benefit which is at least equal to your original investment and is often greater.

7. We reserve the right to deduct such amount or other benefits in such a way that the Actuary, in his opinion, considers necessary in respect of any levy imposed under the Policyholders Protection Act 1975, or other similar Statutory provisions. 8. This advertisement is based on our interpretation of legislation in force on 19th March 1981. Trident Life cannot accept responsibility for the effect of any future legislation. 9. This offer may be closed at any time. 10. Commission will be paid on applications bearing the stamp of an insurance broker or professional insurance adviser. 11. The registered office of Trident Life Assurance Company Limited is Aldwych House, Aldwych, London WC2B 4JF. Number B50572 (London).

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Tel: Gloucester (0452) 36541

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Forenames _____
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Date of Birth _____

Are you at present suffering from any illness or taking drugs or tablets? YES ☐ NO ☐
Have you ever undergone hospital investigations or any operation? YES ☐ NO ☐

If the answer to either question is yes, give details on a separate sheet of paper including the name and address of your usual doctor to whom reference may be made.

I enclose my cheque for this amount, payable to Trident Life Assurance Company Limited. As this is a very limited offer the Company reserves the right to decline any application. An application received after closure of the offer will be returned in full.

I authorise Trident Life Assurance Company Limited to pay all amounts as they fall due to the credit of the following account.

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Account No. _____
Account name _____
Declaration: I declare that the statements above are true and form the basis of my contract with Trident Life. I consent to Trident Life obtaining details from any doctor who has treated me, agree to accept the Company's usual form of policy, including any limitation placed on the life assurance benefit because of my health. Premiums will be paid by my spouse and the premium payer will be U.K. resident. I agree to complete a Direct Debiting Mandate for the transfer of future premiums.

Signature _____
Date _____

Act before 5th APRIL to benefit from extra tax relief this year

With effect from 6th April 1981, tax relief on life assurance premiums will reduce from 17½% to 15%. However, you can still benefit from the higher rate of tax relief on all premiums paid before 5th April if you start an M&G Regular Investment Plan now and backdate it by up to 12 months. You can start a £20 per month Plan, for example, with a payment of £240, and benefit immediately from tax relief of £50.88.

Regular Investment Plans provide one of the most cost-effective methods yet devised of accumulating a few thousand pounds through a life assurance policy linked to the M&G unit or bond fund of your choice. The future value of your Plan cannot be predicted since it will depend on the investment performance of the fund you choose, as well as your starting age and your monthly contribution. As an example, however, a man of 35 who started paying £20 a month net of tax relief into a Plan linked to M&G Recovery in April 1971 (when the Plan was first used in conjunction with this Fund), would have secured an allocation of units worth £7,977 by the end of February 1981, for a net outlay of £2,380. These figures allow for all expenses and a deduction to cover the Company's final liability to tax on capital gains. This performance has been exceptional and may well not be repeated, but it does demonstrate how effective the Plan can be as a way of building up capital.

The Company's claims tax on your behalf (provided that your total life assurance premiums do not exceed £1,500 p.a. or one-sixth of your total income, whichever is the greater), and add it to your payments, to make up the gross premium. On a £20 net a month Plan tax relief at the current rate of 17½% would bring your gross premium up to £24.24 a month. From 6th April 1981, when the rate of tax relief will reduce to 15%, the net monthly amount you pay to provide the same gross premium will increase from £20 to £20.60. Between 95% and 110% of each payment (depending on your starting age) is invested in units, except in the first two years when these figures reduce to 71% and 87% to cover setting-up expenses.

After two years, therefore, the amount invested will in most cases be greater than your monthly payment.

Regular investment of this type means that you can benefit from the inevitable fluctuations in the price of units through "round cost averaging". You can continue payments for any number of years up to 20, and life cover of at least 180 times your gross monthly premium is provided throughout, if your age at entry is 55 or under. An element of life cover is also provided for higher starting ages, up to 75. Unit trusts and bonds are not suitable for money you may need at short notice, and you should remember that the price of units may go down as well as up. The units notionally allocated to establish benefits under the Plan are owned by the Company.

You are free to cash in your Plan for its current value at any time either before or after the elapsed 20 years. Tax will be payable on any capital gain at termination if your Plan is linked to a unit trust; but in the case of bonds the Company's liability to tax is reflected in the quoted price. If you cash in or stop payments during the next four years there is a penalty, and the tax authorities require us to make a deduction. You should not consider the Plan for less than five years and, for tax reasons, higher-rate taxpayers should continue payments for at least ten years.

Anyone aged 18 or over can join the Plan and there is no maximum age limit. (A specimen of the policy form is available on request.)

M&G Trust (Assurance) Ltd, Three Quays, Tower Hill, London EC3R 6BQ, Member of the Life Offices' Association.

BENEFIT FROM UP TO TWELVE MONTHS OF TAX RELIEF FROM £12 A MONTH

I wish to pay £ each month (minimum £12) into an assurance policy with benefits linked to the Fund of my choice. (Circle the Fund of your choice.)

I enclose my cheque for the first payment of £ equivalent to monthly payments (not more than 12, and if you are over 54) payable to M&G Trust (Assurance) Ltd. I understand that this payment is only provisional and that the Company will not assume risk until formal notification of acceptance has been issued.

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THE M&G GROUP

SPECIAL POST-BUDGET ANNOUNCEMENT

A Pension Plan linked to the Retail Price Index

The budget has created an extraordinary opportunity if you're self-employed or not a member of a company pension scheme. Now you can invest a lump sum in a pension plan linked to the new Treasury Stock announced by the Chancellor.

The new stock is only available for pension funding. It cannot be purchased by individuals directly from the government.

Interest is guaranteed by the government to increase every year in line with the Retail Price Index. And when the stock matures in 15 years time the proceeds will also be indexed.

By investing a minimum of £4,000 in a Target Pension Plan you can "buy" this new government stock. Until now, index-linking has only been available with "Granny Bonds" for the over-60s. But since the budget, whatever your age, you can take advantage of the government's offer and get full tax relief on your investment. What's more, it accumulates free of all tax.

And when you take your benefits, which can be between 60 and 75, the lump sum you can take is completely tax-free, while your pension is treated as earned rather than unearned income.

How much can you actually look forward to? This depends on several factors. Firstly, the rate of inflation. No-one can tell you what that will be. Secondly, the price at which the government sell the stock on March 27th. And perhaps most important, how long your investment runs.

If you take your pension before 1996 your return will depend upon the price of the stock at that time. If there is a similar stock available after 1996, index-linking will continue. Otherwise you can switch into a range of Target Funds.

By linking your pension to the new stock, you should have money that's really worth money.

Because this issue is limited, you have only until March 26th to take up the offer. So it's vital that you act now. Fill in the coupon below and return it with your cheque to Target Life, Target House, Gatehouse Road, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire.

Notes: 1. Maximum contributions are restricted to 17½% of net relevant earnings. However, if your pension contributions have not reached 15% of your net relevant earnings over the last 5 years, you can increase your contribution by the unused 2½%, up to a maximum of this year's earnings. 2. Contributions are subject to full tax relief at your highest marginal rate for earned income. 3. All contributions will be invested in the Target Index-Linked Fund which will consist entirely of the new 20-year Treasury Stock announced by the Chancellor. 4. The Index-Linked stock will be issued to successful tenderers at an allotment price to be determined by the Treasury. The Fund's investment return will be dependent upon the initial allotment price. In the event that the allotment price would provide a return which would not keep pace with inflation over the full term of the stock, Target Life will return all contributions. 5. Contributions will be subject to limited management charges of 5% which is a 7% discount on the actual charge and annual charge of 30% of the Index-Linked Fund. 6. The value of the Target Index-Linked Pension Fund is based upon the market value of the Index-Linked Treasury Stock and other assets held. The price of units can go down as well as up. 7. Details of the Plan will be sent to you. Current legislation does not allow assignment or encashment of a pension plan. The Company reserves the right to adjust the benefits payable in respect of any levy under the Policyholders Protection Act 1975. 8. If you're a member of your employer's pension plan, please consult your professional adviser or Target Life (0452) 36541. 9. The offer is available to any person under age 70 who is self-employed or is not a member of a company pension scheme. 10. This advertisement is based on our understanding of present law and current government practice.

Target Index-Linked Pension Plan Proposal Form

To: Dept. EP, Target Life Assurance Company Ltd, Freepost, Aylesbury, Bucks. HP19 3YA. Please note no stamp is required.

(Block Capital Name)
Surname Mr/Ms/Miss or Title _____
Full First Name(s) _____
Maiden Name (if married female) _____
Date of Birth _____
Address (including postcode) _____

Occupation (Please give full details): _____
Contributions: £ _____
Cheque payable to Target Life Assurance Company Ltd, enclosed - Minimum £4,000

Declaration: I am self-employed or not a member of a company pension plan. I agree to accept the Company's usual form of policy, including any limitation placed on the life assurance benefit because of my health. Premiums will be paid by my spouse and the premium payer will be U.K. resident. I agree to complete a Direct Debiting Mandate for the transfer of future premiums.

Signature _____
Date _____

This offer is not available to residents of the Republic of Ireland. Reg. No. 90044 England. Reg. Office: Target House, Gatehouse Road, Aylesbury, Bucks.

Target Life

The right advice today. The right return tomorrow. A subsidiary of Rothschild & Company Limited. Ultimate Holding Company RIT Limited.

MARKET REPORTS

Commodities

[illegible]

Cocoa meeting fails to reach an agreement

Cocoa held steady yesterday, although dealers were unsettled by the failure of the producers' ministerial meeting in Camaroun to reach a conclusion and reported sales by Ghana, Nigeria and Brazil.

There was some long liquidation and prices were also forced down during the afternoon session by dealers squaring their books before the weekend.

The meeting in Douala, Cameroun, was attended by Brazil, Cameroun, Gabon, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Sao Tome and Principe, and Togo.

Dealers believe that continued resistance by the Ivory Coast to the proposed new International Cocoa Agreement prevented the meeting from deciding on a policy.

Fletcher Challenge is seeking a listing on the London Stock Exchange. It was formed recently when Challenge Corporation merged with two other New Zealand companies, Fletcher and Tasman. It has a market capitalization of £16m and accounts for 12.7 per cent of the total capitalization of all local companies quoted on the New Zealand Stock Exchange.

Discouraged market

Heavy tax payments were principally responsible for another difficult session in the discount market yesterday. The authorities gave help on an exceptionally large scale. By outright bill purchases they took small amounts each of Treasury bills; local authority bills; and eligible bank bills. Rates opened at 12 per cent for secured money, and stayed there for most of the session in the face of interbank levels up to 12½ per cent.

Foreign exchange report

The dollar staged a useful rally on foreign exchange markets yesterday as Eurodollars picked up at the end of a week of steady decline. However, trading was at a standstill in the forward market for the next set of United States economic statistics, particularly the money supply.

The pound closed 158 points down against the dollar at \$2.2655, though this still left sterling with a net gain of about 475 points on the week.

Sterling: Spot and Forward

	Market rates (day's average)	Market rates (close)
New York	March 29	1 month
Montreal	25.70-27.35	0.00-0.50c disc
London	23.67-0-62.20	1.15-1.25c disc
Amsterdam	23.67-0-62.20	1.15-1.25c disc
Bremen	76.50-77.50	1.15-1.25c disc
Dusseldorf	14.70-75.00	1.15-1.25c disc
Hamburg	14.70-75.00	1.15-1.25c disc
Frankfurt	4.67-7.1m	0.00-0.50c disc
Paris	100.25-101.50	1.15-1.25c disc
Madrid	190.25-191.50	1.15-1.25c disc
Milan	225.00-226.00	1.15-1.25c disc
Barcelona	225.00-226.00	1.15-1.25c disc
Paris	121.00-122.00	1.15-1.25c disc
Geneva	121.00-122.00	1.15-1.25c disc
Tokyo	400-77	1.15-1.25c disc
Vienna	33.00-33.00	1.15-1.25c disc

Effective exchange rate compared to 1982 100

Other

Markets

Australia	1.9260-1.9410
Bahrain	0.8525-0.8555
Finland	9.0785-9.1195
Greece	111.85-113.65
Hongkong	11.8670-11.9070
Iran	not available
Kuwait	0.6175-0.6205
Malaysia	5.15-5.15
Mexico	52.60-54.25
New Zealand	2.3365-2.4365
Saudi Arabia	2.3650-2.3650
Singapore	4.7250-4.7350
South Africa	1.7765-1.7915

Indices

	Bank of England	Morgan Guaranty Index	Changes
Sterling	100.2	%	-28.6
US dollar	98.6	%	-5.2
Canadian dollar	85.5	%	-17.5
Schilling	117.3	%	+22.7
Belgian franc	108.4	%	+9.6
Danish kroner	90.3	%	-9.0
Deutsche mark	121.9	%	+40.5
Swiss franc	136.5	%	+75.4
Guilder	113.2	%	+16.2
French franc	87.5	%	-9.1
Lira	61.0	%	-54.0
Yen	144.7	%	+4.7

Based on trade weighted changes from Washington agreement December, 1971.

Dollar Spot

Rates	
Ireland	1.7670-1
Canada	1.1827-1
Netherlands	2.2810-2
Belgium	33.83-3
Denmark	6.4875-6
West Germany	2.0660-2
Portugal	55.80-5
Spain	83.95-8
Italy	1010-
Norway	5.32
France	4.8650-4
Sweden	4.6375-4
Japan	208.15-20

Austria	14.62-1
Switzerland	1.8790-1

Ireland quoted in US currency

Money Market

Rates

Bank of England MLR 12½%
(Last changed 10/2/81)
Clearing Banks Base Rate 12½%
Discount Mkt. Loans 6%
Weekend High 12% Low 11½%
Week Fixed: 12%

Treasury Bills (Disc'ry)

Buying	Selling
2 months 11½%	2 months 11½%
3 months 11½%	3 months 11½%

Prime Bank Bills (Disc'ry) Trade

2 months	11^{13}_{14} - 11^{11}_{14}	3 months	12^{12}_{14}
3 months	11^{14}_{15} - 11^{14}_{14}	4 months	12^{12}_{15}
4 months	11^{12}_{12} - 11^{14}_{12}	6 months	11^{12}_{15}
6 months	11^{13}_{14} - 11^{13}_{14}		

EMS Currency Rates

	ECU rates	currency against ECU	% change from central rate†	% change‡ adjusted*	diver- gence limit plus/min
Belgian franc	36.7897	141.6417	+4.65	+1.09	1.53
Danish kron	7.2326	7.98958	+3.44	-0.12	1.64
German DM	1.36603	1.41056	+3.36	-1.36	1.19
French franc	54.7670	59.9080	+9.46	-1.10	1.35
Dutch guilder	2.74362	3.21137	+2.48	-3.08	1.51
Irish punt	0.786563	0.826825	+5.09	-1.68	1.68
Italian lire	1157.78	1257.32	+7.21	-1.06	1.66

† changes are for the ECU therefore positive change denotes a decrease.
 * adjusted for sterling's weight in the ECU, and for the lira's weight in the ECU.
 ‡ divergence limit.
 Adjustment calculated by The Times.

Euro-\$ Deposits **Gold**

Euro-\$ Deposits

(9) calls, 13-14; seven days, 13-13; one month, 14-14; three months, 13-14; six months, 13-14.

Gold

Gold fixed: am, \$509.50 (an ou
pm, \$516.75 close, \$517.50.
Krugerrand (per coin): \$53
\$234-235.60.
Sovereigns (new): \$128-130 (1
\$7.5).

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

[illegible]

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, March 16. Dealings End, March 27. § Contango Day, March 30. Settlement Day, April 6

Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

[illegible]

PERSONAL CHOICE



Tom Baker who makes his final appearance as Doctor Who (BBC 1, 5.10). With him is Sarah Sutton

arrive Gavin's film *The Miraculous Circumstance* (BBC 2, 8.35) artful without tears. It raises the curtain on the BBC's week of programmes commemorating the centenary of the composer's birth. Thanks to Mr Gavin and the invisible A. L. Lloyd who has it, and narrates, the film we can mentally refer back to 'gib' pictures and sounds for guidance if the going gets tough in the next few days. And very pretty pictures they are too, a peasant woman dipping their giant albatross in the river to put them in trim, and a shepherd piping to his flock. The film shows how Bartok took his primitive recording machine out into Hungarian countryside to preserve the rich variety of gypsy folk tunes. They live on, transmuted into Bartok's folk, and still sound in those same rustic regions explored by folk to which the film unit returns.

So we say farewell to Tom Baker as Dr Who. His appearance might's concluding episode of *Logopolis* is his last (BBC 1, 11.10). Less monastic than William Hartnell, more agile than Patrick Troughton, less debonair than Jon Pertwee, Mr Baker brought many nice touches of his own to the role of the dandy imperious time traveller. He was the schoolboy who grew up, the slightly potty professor, the wide-eyed intruder of the world of wonders, the Harpo Marx who exchanged harp-carbon for endless scarf and lethal ray gun.

night's arena film (BBC 2, 9.40) views the constant Arab-Israeli crisis through the eyes of one of the leading Jewish writers in the world. Amos Oz is the leader of Peace Now, a leftist movement seeking reconciliation with the Palestinians. He had enough of fanaticism, having seen all kinds of fanatics — Christians, Muslims and Socialists — all with their own idea for instant universal redemption. The arena film is his: through 30 years of Israeli history.

Second most famous post order in all fiction (Billy) ter's is the other resurfaces in a new production of *Hattigan's Winslow Boy* (Radio 4, 8.30), with John McAndrew as the used naval cadet, Michael Aldridge and Sarah Badel as the out and Audrey Woods as the all-conquering defence counsel. Trevelyan's four-part series about clubland heroes, beginning with John Buchan, is repeated — and quite right, too — on Radio 4 (3.30 pm). No one reads Causley like Causley, and I welcome half hours which Radio 3 has given the poet tonight (10.00). ... the rest of London sleeps, insomniacs and dedicated art lovers can enjoy two delightful hours by the radio set across morning (4 am). The Capital Radio concert by the New Art Orchestra includes the piano concerto No 20 (John Lill, 1st) and the symphony No 23.

AT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: †STEREO; *BLACK AND WHITE; (c) REPEAT.

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Davalle

TELEVISION

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6.45 Open University: Journey into frequency space. Closedown at 8.30.
9.30 *Swire*: A lesson for the under-fives (r). 9.30 *Multi-Coloured Show*: The guest includes Maggie Philbin in Hongkong, and a phone-in with pop record producer B. A. Robertson. 12.12 *World*: The line-up is: 12.20 Football focus; 12.50 *Basketball* (Rotary Watches National Championships); 1.40 and 2.10 *Boxing*, from Wembley Arena; 2.40 *International Rugby Union*: England v France, from Twickenham. Then, at 4.30 *Football*, v Ireland, from Murrayfield; 4.40 *Final scores*.
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Radio 4

6.25am Weather.
6.30 News.
6.32 Farming.
6.50 Yours Faithfully.
7.00 News.
7.10 On Your Farm.
7.40 Today's Papers.
7.45 Yours Faithfully.
8.00 It's a Bargain.
8.00 News.
8.10 Sport on 4.
8.45 Today's Papers.
8.50 Yesterday in Parliament.
9.00 News.
9.05 Breakaway.
9.50 News Stand.
10.05 The Week in Westminster.
10.30 Daily Service.
10.45 Pick of the Week.
11.25 From Our Own Correspondent.
12.00 News.
12.02 pm Money Box.
12.27 Just a Minute.
1.00 News.
1.00 Any Questions?
2.00 News.
2.05 Wildlife.
2.30 The House of Mirth, by Edith Wharton (Part 1).
2.40 News.
3.55 When Men and Mountains Meet.
4.40 Profile: Historian A. J. P. Taylor.
5.00 News.
5.05 Thicker than Water. (2) Mothers.
5.25 Week Ending.
6.15 Desert Island Discs with Russell Harty.
6.30 Play: The Winslow Boy, by Terence Rattigan. (See Personal Choice.)
7.00 News.
7.10 Sport on 4.
7.15 Lighter than Air.
7.30 News.
7.35 When Men and Mountains Meet.
8.40 Profile: Historian A. J. P. Taylor.
9.00 News.
9.05 Thicker than Water. (2) Mothers.
9.25 Week Ending.
10.15 Desert Island Discs with Russell Harty.
10.30 Play: The Winslow Boy, by Terence Rattigan. (See Personal Choice.)
10.50 News.
11.00 Sport on 4.
11.05 Lighter than Air.
11.15 Cosmothea (new series) with Alan and Dave Sealey.
11.35 Clubland Heroes (1) John Peel. (See Personal Choice.)
12.00 News.
12.15-12.23 am Weather.

Radio 3

7.55 am Weather.
8.00 News.
8.05 Records: Saint-Saens, George Onslow, Chabrier.
9.00 News.
9.05 Record Review.
10.15 Records: Haydn, Fauré.
11.00 Robert Mayer Concert live from Festival de la Radio, Basel. Derek Bourgeois, Bartok, Rostropovich.
12.15 pm Brass Band: Gareth Wood, Eric Taylor.
1.00 News.
1.05 String Quartets: Dvorak, Puccini and Verdi.
2.00 Play it again.
2.05 Jazz Records.
2.45 Critics' Forum.
3.35 Classical Guitar: Sor, Smith, Arrieu, Hans, Ernest, Shand.
4.30 Opera: Renaud, by Sacchini, live from Logan Hall, London; (8.15-8.30 and 9.15-9.30 Readings).
10.00 The Living Poet. Charles Causley reads his own poetry (See Personal Choice).
10.30 Karl Richter plays Bach.
11.00 News.
11.05-11.15 The Yawning Heights, readings from novel by Alexander Zinoviev.
11.30 News.
11.35-11.45 The Yawning Heights, readings from novel by Alexander Zinoviev.
11.55-12.05 Open University: Ferro-concrete; Personality Assessment; Musical Mathematics; Logical Atomism; Art and the Historian; Maths Foundation Tutorial.
12.15-12.25 pm Open University: Open Forum; Television and Politics. (3).

Radio 1

5.00 am As Radio 2. 7.00 Playroom.
8.00 Tony Blackburn. 10.00 Steve Wright. 1.00 pm Adrian Jaxx. 2.00 A King in New York. 2.05 Paul Gambaccini. 4.00 Walters Weekly. 5.00 Rock On. 6.30-7.30 In Concert. 7.30 The Big Band Special. 8.00 Colin. 11.10 Peter Marshall. 11.20-11.30 You and the Night and the Music.

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